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Algeria	6,000 Drs. Iran	110 Pts. Costa Rica	1,000 Francs
Austria	27 S. Italy	1,000 Lire Costa Rica	145 Esc.
Bahrain	5,000 Drs. Italy	500 Rls. Rep. of Ireland	75 P.
Belgium	14,000 Drs. Kenya	500 Pts. Spain	8,000 Rubs
Croatia	14,000 Drs. Libya	1,000 Lira Turkey	7,000 P.
Egypt	11,000 Drs. Libya	1,000 Lira Turkey	1,000 P.
Finland	8,500 M. Luxembourg	1,000 Lira Turkey	1,000 P.
France	7,500 M. Morocco	1,000 Lira Turkey	1,000 DM
Germany	2,700 DM. Netherlands	1,000 Lira Turkey	1,000 DM
Greece	2,200 Drs. Norway	1,000 Lira Turkey	1,000 DM
Iceland	120 Drs. Nigeria	1,000 Lira Yugoslavia	4,700 D.

ESTABLISHED 1887



A Pole Vault Strike, a Lewis Gold Rush
The world's best pole vaulters went on strike Monday at the Games, and Carl Lewis, above, said it was "the most difficult day of track and field" he'd ever had. But that didn't keep him from becoming the first Olympian long jumper to win back-to-back gold medals while teammate Roger Kingdom, who just missed a world record, became the first man in 28 years to win a second straight gold in the 110-meter hurdles. Then Paul Erem, Kenyan newcomer to the men's 800 meters, beat two former Olympic champions, Joaquim Cruz of Brazil and Said Aouita of Morocco, and the vaulters and angry officials settled their differences, temporarily.

It Was Like Old Times Again, if Briefly
Pietro Mennea of Italy, the 1980 Olympic champion in the 200-meter dash and the world record-holder, made history by becoming the first runner to compete in five Games. He finished fourth in his first-round heat, good enough to reach the second round, called it a "proud moment," then retired from competition. "I was a little emotional," said Mennea, 35. "I'm the grandfather of these people."

Big Game in Munich Is Set for a Replay
Puerto Rico, expected to give the United States a tough game in the basketball quarterfinals, ran into a "pretty tough" defense and was routed. And the Soviet Union beat Brazil on a last-second, three-point shot. That set up a semifinal game Wednesday that will be the first in 16 years between the United States and the Soviet Union. It's the first since they angrily disputed 1972 final in Munich, the only U.S. loss in Olympic basketball competition.

Maybe He Jabbered Instead of Jabbing
Richard Pittman, marathon runner, night club manager, car cleaner, singer, comic, and stepson of the Cook Islands' prime minister, Pupuke Robati: "I should have been a boxer. But in the ring I'm an animal. Have you seen me in the ring? You better see me." It's too late. Pittman lost his featherweight match Monday to Jacov Shmuel of Israel. *H/T Olympic report, Pages 21 and 22.*

At UN, Reagan Urges Chemical Arms Talks

By Julie Johnson
New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS — President Ronald Reagan, delivering a farewell speech, called "Munich" for an international conference to reinforce the existing global ban on chemical and biological weapons and improve adherence to it.

Mr. Reagan, condemning the use of poison gas as an "ominous terrorist" and a "horror," declared that the use of chemical warfare by Iran and Iraq had jeopardized the "moral and legal strictures that have held these weapons in check since World War I."

Addressing a crowded, politicized General Assembly chamber, Mr. Reagan said: "It is incumbent upon all civilized nations to ban it for all, and on a verifiable global basis, the use of chemical and gas warfare."

The United States manufactures

poison gas but has not used it since the signing in 1925 of a Geneva protocol that bans its use. The Reagan administration is seeking to halt the recent use of chemical and biological weapons, notably in the Iran-Iraq war and more recently its alleged use by Iraq against Kurdish guerrillas.

An administration official said 112 of 159 countries worldwide had signed the Geneva accord.

"I call upon the signatories to that protocol, as well as other concerned states, to convene a conference to consider actions that we can take together to reverse the serious erosion of this treaty," Mr. Reagan said.

While administration officials and U.S. diplomats publicly remained vague on conference details, it was known one proposal for discussion at such a meeting would be a requirement that all signatories to any chemical weapons ban be willing to allow international investigators into regions where the use of poison gas was suspected.

Earlier this month the Reagan administration accused Iraq of using poison gas against Kurds in its northern regions and condemned such action as "abhorrent and unjustifiable." Afterward, the United States, Britain, West Germany and Japan asked the UN secretary-general, Javier Pérez de Cuellar, to send an investigative team to Iraq to look for evidence of chemical warfare.

Iraq, which has denied the U.S. accusation, refused any entry into the area by international investigators.

In describing the conference, the only new initiative advanced in Mr. Reagan's speech Monday, the White House said it would encourage every country to sign the 1925 protocol.

See SOVIET, Page 6

Clashes Enliven Debate Bush Exchanges Angry Charges With Dukakis

By E.J. Dionne Jr.
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Vice President George Bush and Michael S. Dukakis clashed sharply and at times angrily in their first debate, with Mr. Dukakis relentlessly pressing the Iran-contra affair and drug policy and Mr. Bush criticizing Mr. Dukakis's stands on the death penalty and taxes.

The vice president argued repeatedly that the Massachusetts governor lacked his own experience.

On Page 5

How a small group of Michigan voters shifted to Bush. Bush clarifies his stance on penalties for illegal abortions.

ence and assailed him as having judgment that was shaped by failed liberal policies.

Mr. Dukakis, on the other hand, attacked Mr. Bush as the inheritor of an administration that was uncaring on social issues and said that, while Mr. Bush had a long résumé of government service, he had demonstrated flawed judgment in the Iran-contra affair, in dealings with Panama's military leader and in other issues ranging from health care to defense policy.

It was the first of two debates scheduled for the general election campaign. At several points in the nationally televised 90-minute encounter Sunday, which took place at Wait Chapel on the campus of Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the nominees offered a clear picture of their disagreements on issues and values.

For instance, whereas Mr. Bush passionately defended "the sanctity of life," Mr. Dukakis said the vice president would "brand a woman a criminal" for choosing abortion.

Mr. Dukakis set the tone for his approach to the debate by going to the attack within three minutes of its start.

He did so by criticizing the Reagan administration's dealings with General Manuel Antonio Noriega, the Panamanian ruler, who has been indicted by two federal grand juries in Florida on charges related to drug trafficking.

Neither candidate was embarrassed by a major gaffe in the first of two televised debates. But the Democratic governor of Massachusetts, who entered the battle a step behind the Republican vice presidential candidate in most public-opinion polls, gave millions who knew little about him several reasons to take his candidacy seriously.



George Bush and Michael S. Dukakis before the debate in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Wayne Scárbová/Reuters/Lif

Round 1: No Blunders by Either Side

By David S. Broder
Washington Post Service

WINSTON-SALEM, North Carolina — Governor Michael S. Dukakis kept the presidential race alive and in doubt on Sunday night by showing a huge presidential debate audience that he could defeat Vice President George Bush's efforts to place him outside the mainstream and could present himself as a man with the composure and character to fill the presidency.

Neither candidate was embarrassed by a major gaffe in the first of two televised debates. But the Democratic governor of Massachusetts, who entered the battle a step behind the Republican vice presidential candidate in most public-opinion polls, gave millions who knew little about him several reasons to take his candidacy seriously.

Mr. Dukakis showed himself to be a man of liberal views on questions from abortion to housing to national defense. But his dis-

tinguishable and his coherent answers appeared to frustrate Mr. Bush's efforts to wall Mr. Dukakis off from consideration by the middle-ground voters who have been having a hard time making up their minds about the race.

Showing the effects of intensive coaching, both men negotiated the 23 questions and the huge pressures of the event without a major blunder. But the few verbal gaffes came from Mr. Bush, and it was Mr. Bush who occasionally rushed his words and forced his voice into the upper register.

Mr. Dukakis took the rebuttal to the same question and turned it into a lecture on the importance of leadership, tagging Mr. Bush as a "leader, not a follower" (by implication). Mr. Reagan as failures because of their past relationship with the de facto Panamanian leader, General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

They argued the point several more times, but each time it was Mr. Bush who was put in the position of explaining himself while Mr. Dukakis gave his sermonette on Tuesday night.

That pattern marked a major step for the governor in reclaiming the initiative in a campaign that Mr. Bush had dominated from the week of the Republican convention in August until the middle of this month.

In that period, Mr. Bush pinned Mr. Dukakis down with a battery of charges about his record as governor, notably the veto of a Pledge of Allegiance bill, a prison furlough

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Israelis Kill 2 Arabs and Wound at Least 46 in Palestinian Strike

Palestinian youths scattering Monday as tear gas canisters exploded in the Arab community of Jaber Mukaber in Jerusalem, where a 23-year-old man was killed by Israeli soldiers. They killed a second Palestinian and wounded at least 46 others during a general strike in the Israeli-occupied territories, hospital officials and Palestinians said.

See MEAT, Page 6

For Meat-Crazy Germans, Wurst Is Clearly Best

By Ferdinand Protzman
International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — Whether it is a plump, succulent *weisswurst* served with a pile of potato salad in a boisterous Munich beer hall, a plate-sized *wurstel* with a crackling *Hamburg* *gasthaus*, or a crackling, roasted hog leg accompanied by sauerkraut in a Frankfurt applewine garden, Germans love meat.

Consumption of meat in general and red meat in particular has declined steadily in the United States and several other industrialized nations in recent years, as scientific evidence mounts that red meat's high fat and cholesterol levels increase the risk of heart disease.

In West Germany, the trend is running

solidly in the opposite direction, despite medical and nutritional data that less meat is better and a hormone scandal that cut drastically into veal sales over the past few weeks.

"There is absolutely no trend toward healthier eating here," said Wolfgang Stieber, the nation's leading food critic. "Germans feel they must eat meat once a day at least, regardless of the nutritional evidence to the contrary. And they love pork for the simple reason that it is the cheapest meat you can find."

Elisabeth Luttermann-Semzter, a nutritionist with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Ernährung in Frankfurt, which tries to promote healthier eating, agreed that the trend is heading the wrong way.

"It's very difficult to get people to change their eating habits," she said. "I

would like to say the slight rise in fruit and vegetable consumption over the past two years represents a trend toward healthier eating, but meat consumption has been rising much faster. About the only positive nutritional trend now is that Germans are eating more whole-grain bread and less white bread. Trying to convince people to eat less meat is a lot like getting them to quit smoking."

Per-capita meat consumption is 102 kilograms (224.9 pounds) a year and has been rising steadily since 1982, according to the Ministry of Agriculture. Pork or *schweinefleisch* as it is known in German, is the undisputed favorite, accounting for just over half the total. Germans eat about 20 kilos of beef per capita, followed by fish and fowl at 10 kilos each.

By contrast, in 1987, per-capita con-

sumption in the United States of beef and lamb was 105.2 pounds (47.7 kilograms), lamb 1.5 pounds, and pork 62.5 pounds, according to the American Meat Institute.

In France, beef and veal consumption was 68.1 pounds, lamb 10.1 pounds and pork 75.4 pounds. In Japan, the per-capita veal and beef consumption was 15.9 pounds, lamb 2.9 pounds and pork 34.6 pounds.

A spokesman for the West German Agriculture Ministry said per-capita fruit-and-vegetable consumption climbed to 75.1 kilos in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1987, from 72.5 kilos the previous year.

"It depends a lot on the harvest," he said. "If it is a good harvest, there is a greater supply, prices go down and people eat more. But to say there is a trend away

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Johnson Fails A Drug Test And Will Lose Olympic Gold

By Michael Janofsky
New York Times Service

SEOUL — Ben Johnson of Canada, the Olympic 100-meter champion and the so-called world's fastest human for more than a year, has tested positive for using anabolic steroid during his performance in the Olympics.

Johnson, who stunned time in the race, 9.79 seconds, lowered his own world record, failed a drug test administered after his victory Saturday and will be stripped of his gold medal.

He will be the seventh and, by far, the most prominent athlete in the Games to fail a drug test and the first Olympic track-and-field champion to lose a gold medal. In the 1984 Los Angeles Games, Marti Vainio lost his silver medal when he tested positive for using steroids.

Johnson's gold medal was also the only one won in the Games by Canada.

Carl Lewis, who finished second in the 100-meter final in the American record time of 9.92 seconds, will be elevated to the winner's position, with Linford Christie of Britain moving to second.

The positive result for a substance called stanazolol, which is structurally similar to the male hormone testosterone, was announced on Tuesday by officials of the International Olympic Committee.

The IOC learned of the test results Monday, two days after a sec-

ond sample of Johnson's urine and confirmed what the initial sample had showed.

The results were first confirmed by Dr. Gustavo Tuccin, a member of the IOC medical commission, which met Monday to review the tests. The commission met again on Tuesday morning and recommended to the IOC executive board that the test be declared valid and that Johnson's medal be removed.

Substances like stanazolol are taken by athletes to increase muscle mass, which in turn enhances performance. The test results do not indicate how long an athlete might have been using them, only that traces of the drug have been found in his system.

In the Olympics, and most other international and national events, medals winners and other finishers at random are required to give a urine sample after their events.

Two samples are taken. If the first is positive, the second is tested. If the results are the same, the athlete, his coach and the appropriate officials are notified.

The IOC has banned more than 100 substances that have been found to enhance the performance of an athlete.

The test results seem to vindicate Lewis, who said last year after Johnson had defeated him at the world track and field championships in Rome with a world record time of 9.83 seconds that "some athletes in this meet" had used performance-enhancing drugs. He had

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Japan Sets Aid Package For Indebted Nations

By Carl Gewirtz
International Herald Tribune

BERLIN — Japan unveiled Monday a plan to step up its financial aid to help relieve the Third World debt crisis in an initiative that reflects its desire for a greater share of the voting power within the International Monetary Fund.

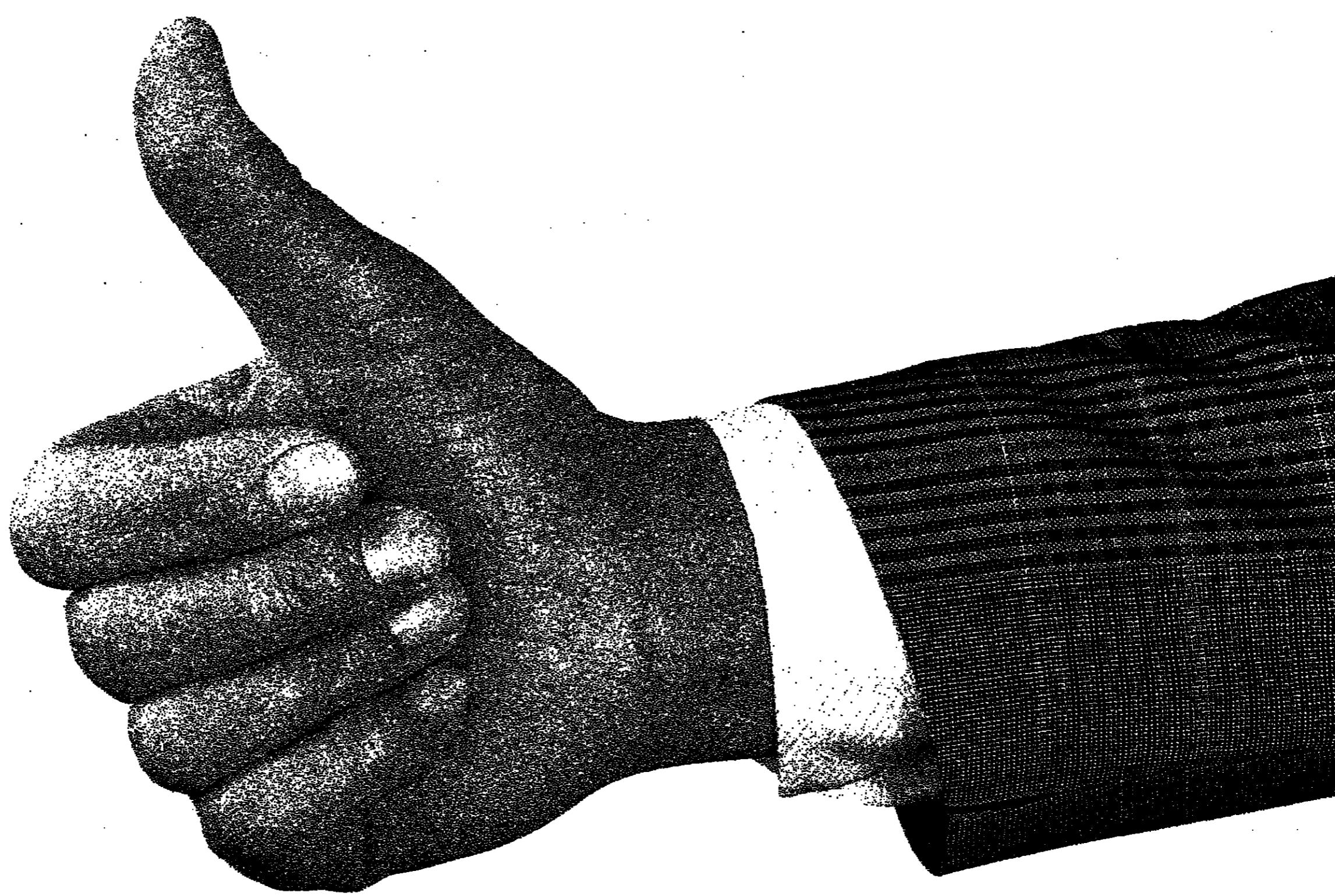
Japan did not reveal a value for the plan nor for a proposal to be

Berégovoy firmly rules out devolution of the French franc against the Deutsche mark. Page 19.

presented Tuesday that would attempt to deal with the debt problem. As a result, nobody here for the joint annual meeting of the IMF and the World Bank yet has a clear idea how much money the Japanese are talking about.

The aid plan, to support structural adjustment in middle-income (mostly Latin American) debtor countries, is similar to

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Source: Datamation, August 1988

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A Barrier in Krasnoyarsk

The routineness of high-level Soviet-U.S. contacts may be the Reagan administration's chief foreign policy legacy. So normal and numerous were the meetings between Secretary of State George Shultz and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, for instance, that no one seems to mind that what was probably the last round in this unprecedented dialogue ended without much additional progress to report. The common assumption is that the next U.S. president, whoever he is, will pick up the tab of across-the-board discussions begun by Ronald Reagan and that the methods and goals will not change in any substantial degree. Considering where things were eight or 10 years ago, this is, for Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan, a major achievement and, for the rest of us, a cause for measured hope.

The end of this administration's dealings with Moscow may be most notable for a step not taken. There were strong pressures on the administration to declare the radar that the Soviet Union has built at Krasnoyarsk not simply a violation, which it is, but a "material breach" of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty. This would have had the effect of nullifying the ABM Treaty — removing it as the roadblock it now is to early sophisticated tests in space of Mr. Reagan's prized missile defense system, the Strategic Defense Initiative. But to do so would also have meant the difference be-

— THE WASHINGTON POST

The Debate: Call It a Tie

The debate Sunday was a curiously subdued affair in which the programs of the two presidential candidates and the journalistic format prevented either candidate from getting up much steam, and certainly from launching a full assault on the other. We scored it as something of a standoff.

Vice President Bush had one overarching purpose: to do everything he could to instill the thought that the election is a referendum on values — his supposedly in the mainstream, those of Governor Dukakis on the liberal left. Obviously he feels this formulation plays to his strengths and his opponent's weaknesses. Mr. Dukakis, on the other hand, tended to slip away from confrontation on values and bent himself to demonstrating that he is capable of providing "leadership," the area where his analytical style and personal intensity help him most.

As happens in these presidential debates, each candidate was generally more concerned with getting across his chosen message than with answering the reporters' ques-

tions or the other candidate's challenges. Still, there were peaks of personal assertion along with the troughs in which the two of them repeated, with some rambling, their familiar positions. The exchanges were never exactly riveting, but they did provide a good reprisal of the campaign so far.

There seemed, however, little in the debate that was likely to change many voters' minds and perhaps even less that would deepen and confirm the lightly held views that many people seem to hold at this point. A certain useful sort of information about the personal qualities and reactions of the candidates comes across in a debate like this. But it is doubtful, in this debate anyway, that much information was supplied of the sort that lets one make final judgments of character. Fewer questions and more follow-up, more exchanges between the candidates, a lesser role for the journalists: These are the things that might make the following debates more productive.

— THE WASHINGTON POST

A Door, but With a Catch

Secretary of State George Shultz has promised to open America's doors to more refugees next year. This is welcome news, reaffirming the U.S. commitment to help those seeking asylum. But there is a catch. Because Congress has already set a ceiling on financial aid, the new refugees will receive less help getting started than did many of their predecessors. That may be a reasonable trade-off. Some experts argue that present benefits are more than adequate. But it also suggests a need for clearer signals between Congress and the executive branch to match resources to refugees.

There are more than 12 million refugees worldwide who face persecution if they return home. Most U.S. assistance is aimed at resettlement efforts overseas, but thousands of refugees are admitted to the United States under annual allotments for various areas. These ceilings fluctuate with changing world conditions and with the funds available for medical and social service benefits after the refugees arrive.

For 1989, Congress appropriated enough to give 68,500 refugees benefits for up to 31 months. Two weeks ago, however, Mr.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

Other Comment

By Not Losing, Both Men Won

There was no apparent winner, there were no revelations and absolutely nothing new emerged about the candidates' intentions. George Bush approached the debate with a slight edge in the opinion polls, at advantage that had grown in the past few days. So Michael Dukakis absolutely had to attack. He did so, pugnaciously, but the Republican candidate resisted the assaults rather effectively. The Republican camp appears to have achieved its essential goal: No irreparable harm was done.

— Le Monde (Paris).

Folly of an Aging Leadership

Burma is a lesson of the folly of an aging leadership which refused to allow change. People do not always agree with everything their government does, but before any government can run a country successfully it has to command the support of the bulk of the population. It is quite obvious that the Burma Socialist Program Party does not enjoy this support within Burma. In the long run, even the most loyal general must realize that Burma cannot be ruled by force alone.

— The Straits Times (Singapore).

One Can Pray, but Little Else

Even before the flood, Bangladeshis were among the world's worst fed people. Dhaka is seeking three million tons of food as emer-

gency foreign aid, but that amount would seem to make only a dent in the hardship. Whether such supplies could reach the victims in time, moreover, is extremely questionable. When asked what the world could do to help, President Hussain Mohammed Ershad replied, "Pray for us." The frustrating thing is that there seems little more that can be done. What the world can do is gauge the scope of this calamity and, against a recurrence, begin rectifying the crazy system of subsidized food production and rich-country grain-dumping that has depleted reserves. Until relief networks are prepared for the worst, the Bangladeshi everywhere will have to get by on prayers.

— AsiaWeek (Hong Kong).

Much Is Riding on the Shuttle

The space shuttle Discovery is finally ready to fly. Anticipation is natural, after nearly three years of watching Soviet space exploits. The United States cannot sit idle while others move forward, despite the impatience of critics eager to re-direct the shuttle's \$3.5 billion annual budget elsewhere.

Much is riding on Discovery. Another failure would be disastrous. Since the 1986 Challenger tragedy, 50 shuttle parts have been redesigned. A successful launch would reignite public interest in space explorations of all kinds, for the public's imagination is deeply stimulated by human triumph in space, that most hostile of environments.

— The Baltimore Sun.

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OPINION

An Even Debate, but Bush Sounded Harsh

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Michael Dukakis more than held his own with his better-known opponent, and to that extent gained from their debate Sunday; George Bush did nothing to blow his lead, and to that extent his supporters can breathe a sigh of relief.

The most dramatic moment — and what counts in these confrontations is the moment that sticks in people's minds — was based on the decision to keep hammering away at the Massachusetts governor on his veto of a bill requiring public-school teachers to lead the Pledge of Allegiance, and on his association with the American Civil Liberties Union.

Answering a question from Peter Jennings about using the inflammatory adjective "card-carrying," the vice president sought to smear his opponent with all the unpopular stands of the ACLU, and threw in the "pledge issue" on his own.

"Of course he is questioning my patriotism," responded Mr. Dukakis, "and I resent it. Nobody's going to question my patriotism as the vice president has repeatedly."

He did not seem to resent it deeply, because that is not his style, but the point came across that he believed it was prudent to express some restrained restraint.

The Bush camp believes it scored with this exchange: A debate, however, is not "won" on points made or shots taken, but on impressions; my own impression is that this sort of harsh and mean-spirited assault has reached the point of overkill. Maybe it worked at the start, but now all this symbolism is turning sour.

Not that the Democrat was above delivering a low blow: The imputation that Mr. Bush would subvert Social Security was his own brand of gutter politics. And his hackneyed claim that the U.S. stockpile of nuclear arms was "enough to blow up the Soviet Union 40 times over" was not only demagogic, but an insult.

There seemed, however, little in the debate that was likely to change many voters' minds and perhaps even less that would deepen and confirm the lightly held views that many people seem to hold at this point.

A certain useful sort of information about the personal qualities and reactions of the candidates comes across in a debate like this. But it is doubtful, in this debate anyway, that much information was supplied of the sort that lets one make final judgments of character. Fewer questions and more follow-up, more exchanges between the candidates, a lesser role for the journalists: These are the things that might make the following debates more productive.

— THE WASHINGTON POST

to the intelligence of anybody interested in arms control.

Mr. Dukakis mastered the art of ending his two-minute answer with a change that required the rebuttal to be defensive. After the first time, Mr. Bush zipped back with: "Time to unleash the one-liners?" That answer was about as clear as Boston Harbor.

What of the fundamental disagreements? They were laid out to be seen, from nuclear defense to abortion and supporters of each position thought their man won.

When opposing the death penalty, Mr. Dukakis hastened to add, "I'm also tough on violent crime," which drew a laugh from the Bush backers.

(Do we really need a studio audience? No. Do we need reporters to get between the two men? No.)

Will this joint interview make up minds among the vast throng of undecided? I think it will begin to.

The people who have been made to wonder if Mr. Dukakis is some

kind of rabid lefty kook will now reject that charge; in his presentation and demeanor, he came across as a respectable candidate, if somewhat short of presidential timber. He is less of a mystery man to millions who had been politically inert, and those of us who are persuaded that he is a sheep in wolf's clothing will have a tougher row to hoe.

What of the vice president? He was grimly determined to get across his metaphorical and absurd at which he had been — an absurdity at which he had been scientific mind rebelled. He ultimately became a distinguished marine biologist, along with his imperial duties, but he agreed to come along with the imperial folderol for the sake of form.

A more significant departure from the imperial tradition came in those August days of 1945 when the Japanese military fanatics, identifying defeat with dishonor, wanted to fight on at any cost. Hirohito joined the peace-makers and his influence was decisive.

He even told the people by radio — it was the first time they had ever heard his voice, and the archaic dialect puzzled many of them — that national honor would survive surrender, that it was better to "suffer the insufferable" than to spill more blood. Several enraged army officers broke into the palace when they heard of the taped surrender address, but they were too late.

That was not the only instance in which the royal principle proved valuable and humane in that cruel war.

When the Gestapo came hunting for Danish Jews, demanding that they wear the star of David, King Christian appeared on the streets of Copenhagen wearing the star. The Danes followed his example and refused to play the grim game that made it possible even easy in some other places, to identify, deport, and slaughter.

In London, King George VI, a man with a stammer who had grown up in the shadow of his glamorous brother, never accepted the throne, lived in Buckingham Palace during the worst of the bombing of London.

These scattered examples of the performance of royalty at its best have not reversed the century's trend against it. The century has witnessed the fall of many ancient monarchies sometimes to great popular delight. But has their disappearance helped? What, for instance, would have happened to Germany after 1918 if "Kaiser Bill" had kept his throne, not leaving a vacuum for the Austrian corporal eventually to fill?

As recently as 1981, the infant democracy of post-Franco Spain perhaps was saved by the timely action of King Juan Carlos, who sided with parliamentary democracy against a cabal plotting to overthrow it. Yet constitutional monarchy is often dismissed as a curiosity, an anachronism or luxury, picturesque but functionless except as entertainment. The paradox that constitutional monarchy at its best has more than once served and strengthened democracy and freedom gets little acknowledgment.

One would not, of course, expect in America. Most Americans are anti-monarchist by long historical custom. For U.S. independence was defined from the outset as independence of a king. Many of the charges against George III were groundless when they were not blamed on Parliament and the hapless administration it had created. But the king was the designated culprit for decades of bad policy, and that for a practical reason. Those who called themselves "Wings" and sympathized with the rebellious colonists — Burke, Fox and others — were fostering their own myth of an overweening royal influence.

Occasionally an event like the illness and decline of Hirohito, stirring all but forgotten memories, or Juan Carlos's action against the Franco conspirators, reminds us that the record on this matter is not entirely one-sided. Indeed, Americans tolerate chronic confusion in their political system by failing to distinguish between the ceremonial and the practical functions of government.

Nothing has better illustrated the point than the events of the past 12 years. A fair prime minister who had few talents as a king (Jimmy Carter), gave way to a gifted king who had few talents as a prime minister (Ronald Reagan). In each case, something essential was missing from presidential performance.

It is too bad that the framers made the two presidential hats all but indistinguishable. As television reduces politics increasingly theatrical, it will become still more essential to separate the theatrical from the practical element in government.

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Washington Post Writers Group.

100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1888: Murder on a Moor

NEWCASTLE — In the absence of any arrest in connection with the murder of Jane Beeton (or Saville), on Birley Road on Saturday night [Sept. 22], the excitement in this locality is growing in intensity. The only new phase that has been imported into the mystery is the arrival of Dr. Phillips and Detective Roots from London, for the purpose, however, of siding the ends of justice with regard to the Whitechapel [London] murderer or murderers. Inspector Roots, of Scotland Yard, came to the conclusion that the murderer of Jane Beeton was not the man who enacted the East End tragedies, although in the local case there had been an imitation of the procedure of the London murderer.

The conversation shifted to history.

What did I think about the secret clauses in the 1939 Soviet-German Nonaggression Pact that assigned Baltic nations and part of Poland to the Soviet Union? How was Alexander

monoplane, arrived at the Gare de Lyon, Paris, yesterday morning [Sept. 26] from Marseilles and was welcomed by a vast crowd. Asked his opinion as to the possibility of a transatlantic flight in an aeroplane, M. Garros replied that he did not consider such a performance to be impossible, but thought it would be necessary to wait some time for its accomplishment.

1938: Führer's Thanks

BERLIN — Supported by the deafening cheering of a gigantic audience, Chancellor Hitler solemnly declared in his momentous speech in the Sporthalle tonight [Sept. 26] that Czechoslovakia must give the Sudeten territories to Germany on October 1, 1938. Germany will march in and take them. The Führer was profuse in his expressions of thanks and praise for Mrs. Chamberlain's efforts, declaring that she has assured the British Prime Minister that once the Sudeten problem is settled, Germany would advance no more territorial claims in Europe.

stan are helping the bandits; we're helping the people! And you Americans fought in Vietnam!" By now several other newspaper readers had gathered around us. When I explained that many people around the world compared Afghanistan to Vietnam, there were murmurings of agreement. A shabbily dressed man declared that the invasion of Afghanistan had been a bad mistake. The discussion took off, and more bystanders joined in:

"Who will win your election?"

"Is it for real or only a charade?"

"Of course it's for real. They have a genuine democracy over there."

In turn, I asked what they thought of Mikhail Gorbachev and perestroika. There was buzz all around. One man replied that Mr. Gorbachev had been very good when he first took over but that soon he had been co-opted by the system.

A red-haired engineer, speaking in the rough accents of the Baltic region, mentioned McCarthyism and the Ku Klux Klan, and asked whether I believed fascism was a danger in the United States. I told him that crime and drugs were the real

Of Hirohito And the U.S. Of Royalty

By Edwin M. Yoder

WASHINGTON — It began at Peoria, Ill., where it did not fit in two years ago, and atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

But with the debate over, it was determined to be an abomination, and he became a shamed man. And he gave along with it his support to the imperial federation.

A more sympathetic view of the imperial had been expressed by the two military leaders who were invited to speak. They agreed to a joint imperial resolution.

He even told the press that he was the best candidate for president, and the national press responded to him, that it was better than Mr. Dukakis, the governor of Massachusetts.

The group of eight voters is a microscopic sliver of the nearly 100 million Americans estimated to have voted in the presidential election. But the strength of their negative reactions to Mr. Dukakis suggests he had trouble with the sort of middle-class swing voter he needs to carry the Nov. 8 election.

Other evidence was more favorable for Mr. Dukakis. ABC television polled 500 voters who watched the debate, hardly a scientific sample. But the strength of their negative reactions to Mr. Dukakis suggests he had trouble with the sort of middle-class swing voter he needs to carry the Nov. 8 election.

"I'm totally against nuclear arms," said Susan Hopkins, 19, who is nevertheless leaning toward voting for Mr. Bush. "I would wish for total disarmament if we could." That's one of the few things I agree with Dukakis on."

"He started being cutthroat," said David Molinari, 30, an independent voter who said his opinion of Mr. Dukakis went down during

the debate.

Mike Sand, 40, a Democrat who is a school administrator, said of Mr. Dukakis, "He kept on saying 'We got a plan, but I don't know what the plan is.' I thought he was more defensive, and his answers were filled with cheap shots."

"He started being cutthroat," said David Molinari, 30, an independent voter who said his opinion of Mr. Dukakis went down during

the debate.

That was the end of the debate.

Gorbachev Joins the Chorus Criticizing Lively Soviet Press

By Philip Taubman
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — A backlash against the increasingly unbribed Soviet press appears to have gained a new and unexpected convert: Mikhail S. Gorbachev.

Responding to a chorus of press criticism at the Communist Party conference in June, and his own misgivings about negative reporting, Mr. Gorbachev has joined some of his more conservative colleagues in the leadership in calling for greater press restraint.

The clearest sign of his changing attitude came in a meeting last Friday with editors. Mr. Gorbachev blamed the press for exaggerating problems and said his behavior was one reason his campaign to reshape the country was flagging.

Although his remarks fell well short of a repudiation of his policy of encouraging glasnost, or openness, he made clear that editors should be more cautious in exercising the newly found freedoms they enjoy.

The message was direct — be careful, be more precise, and, most of all, support what I'm doing," one editor who attended the meeting at Central Committee headquarters said Monday.

At one point, according to the editor, Mr. Gorbachev, angrily shaking his finger, demanded to know who had published data from a purported public opinion poll that showed little support for his programs.

The Soviet leader said the survey was taken among passengers on a train crossing Siberia and was unscientific and misleading. None of the 30 editors admitted responsibility, the participant said.

Mr. Gorbachev's comments, which were published in part by the

NEWS ANALYSIS

party newspaper Pravda on Sunday, may also indicate that he feels it necessary at the moment to bow to conservative sentiment that the press has been irresponsible. The performance of the press has clearly divided the country and generated criticism of his leadership. His remarks about the opinion poll were dropped in the Pravda text.

The change in Mr. Gorbachev's attitude comes at a time when, as he said Friday, his campaign to change the country is sputtering. He has been thrown on the defensive by a series of problems, including continued ethnic unrest in Armenia and Azerbaijan, acute food shortages and a generally dismal performance by the economy.

Other storm clouds have been gathering over the press in recent weeks, including a government decision to cut back on the circulation of several of the more daring national publications in major cities like Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev, and the unannounced decision to close a feisty, popular education journal at the end of the year.

The impending closing of the journal, Uchitel'skaya Gazeta, warning and intimidation against the institutions of the state."

In 1985, Judge Saetta confirmed life sentences against one of Italy's most wanted fugitives, Salvatore Greco, and his brother, Michele Greco, who was known as "The Pope" for his position of absolute authority within the Sicilian Cosa Nostra.

The Greco brothers had been convicted of ordering the assassination in 1983 of Rocco Cliniciani, a senior anti-Mafia magistrate.

A veteran of many Mafia trials, the judge was due to begin hearings next month from the mass Mafia trial in Palermo that produced 338 guilty verdicts last December.

Several policemen and magistrates involved in Mafia investigations have been killed in recent years, but this is the first time a serving judge has been assassinated.

The minister of justice, Giuliano Vassalli, said Monday that the killings were "an unequivocal sign of

Judge in Mafia Convictions And Son Are Killed in Sicily

By Roberto Suro
New York Times Service

ROME — A senior judge, who had handed down tough sentences against several leaders of the Sicilian Mafia, was assassinated in what Italian authorities described Monday as the boldest Mafia killing of recent years.

The bullet-ridden body of Antonio Saetta, 66, a presiding appellate court judge in Palermo, was found by police Monday on a small country road in central Sicily. His son, Stefano, 35, was also killed.

The victims were driving home to Palermo on Sunday night after visiting relatives in the town of Catania when they were ambushed by assassins armed with at least two submachine guns, police said.

The minister of justice, Giuliano Vassalli, said Monday that the killings were "an unequivocal sign of

warning and intimidation against the institutions of the state."

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TROUBLES IN CYPRUS — Canadian soldiers of the United Nations peacekeeping force in Cyprus set up barbed wire Monday to block student demonstrators from advancing toward a Green Line Turkish-Cypriot checkpoint. The Greek-Cypriot demonstrators were protesting the reported kidnapping of a teen-age girl in the breakaway north part of the divided island in the Mediterranean.

ASSESS: Neither Side Blunders, and Dukakis Keeps His Chances Alive

(Continued from Page 1)
program and the pollution in Boston Harbor.

Mr. Bush managed to remind viewers of those issues on Sunday night, but this time Mr. Dukakis was obviously prepared. He anticipated the furiously program attack by offering his own criticism of a somewhat similar federal prison program before Mr. Bush got to the issue.

"In some speeches and publications," he said, according to Pravda, "you almost get the idea that perestroika has aggravated the economic situation, thrown finances out of balance, worsened supplies of food and goods, and sharpened housing and other social problems."

Perestroika is the Russian word for "restructuring" the economy by eliminating many of the rigid practices introduced by Stalin.

Yegor K. Ligachev, the second-ranking party leader, and other officials, have frequently criticized the press for undermining socialist principles.

They have been particularly critical of the press for depicting the Stalin years as a time of unmitigated failure and brutality, charging that the treatment of this period has demeaned the work and sacrifices of millions of Russians.

And large, the Bush sides did not praise their candidate's performance, but sought to raise doubts about Mr. Dukakis. The Dukakis side, meanwhile, said its man had fared much better than the vice president.

Adopting a goading tone, Mr. Dukakis referred to the vice president as "George" and, at one point, simply as "Bush," and he returned repeatedly to administration drug

policy shot, saying that Mr. Dukakis's membership in the American Civil Liberties Union meant the governor was not "in touch with mainstream America," he felt it necessary to add, "I hope people don't think I'm questioning his patriotism."

Mr. Dukakis, looking stern, said: "Of course the vice president is questioning my patriotism. I resent it. I resent it."

The next question involved grants for the homeless — and Mr.

Bush's response centered on his support for "the McKinney Act," a piece of homelessness legislation that was surely unfamiliar to most of his audience and one which he did not bother to explain. It was one of several times that he talked in Washington jargon, leaving Mr. Dukakis, the supposed technocrat, sounding more mainstream in language, if not in philosophy.

Mr. Dukakis's task was made easier by the panel of journalists' choice of subjects. For the first 55 minutes, they went down a list of social and fiscal problems — drug deficits, health insurance, AIDS, housing and urban poverty, with only abortion drawn from the conservative agenda.

But even when the questions turned to military and foreign policy, presumably Mr. Bush's strong points, Mr. Dukakis found ways to make his points. He turned the first question on his own credentials into an attack on Mr. Bush's role in the Iran-contra affair and steadfastly refused to concede a lack of expertise.

From the military, the debate moved on to the vice presidential candidates, and once again, it was Mr. Bush who was made to appear defensive on his reasons for having picked Senator Dan Quayle of Indiana for his ticket.

The two men showed some anger when they discussed Mr. Bush's choice of Senator Dan Quayle of Indiana as his running mate.

Mr. Bush vigorously defended Mr. Quayle, saying the senator had been the victim of "a lot of rumors and innuendo."

Each nominee focused on the questions that he hopes will prove paramount in the mind of an electorate that had seemed to suspend judgment while waiting for the debate. Mr. Dukakis focused on "leadership" and middle-class concerns, Mr. Bush on "experience" and values.

The two contenders stuck closely to carefully rehearsed answers, regardless of the questions they were asked.

The debate, before a television audience that may have exceeded 100 million people, was especially crucial to Mr. Dukakis, who had trailed in the polls since the Republican convention and is much less well known than Mr. Bush.

His aides said he had intended to use the debate to give his campaign a new start, and gleeble Democrats said afterward that he had done so.

But Bush aides, pleased that the vice president had appeared relaxed after a slightly nervous start, also proclaimed victory and said Mr. Dukakis, despite his vigor, had only reinforced his image as a liberal.

Mr. Bush, criticizing Mr. Dukakis once again for vetoing a bill that would have required teachers to lead students in the Pledge of Allegiance in Massachusetts schools, said he was attacking his rival's judgment, not his patriotism.

"He was wrong then," Mr. Dukakis said, "and he's wrong now."

Mr. Bush, in turn, accused Mr. Dukakis of supporting a bill passed in the Massachusetts legislature in the early 1970s that sought to dissociate Massachusetts from the Vietnam War and asserted that Massachusetts citizens — because war had not been declared by Congress — were not obliged to serve.

DEBATE: Bush and Dukakis Take the Gloves Off

(Continued from Page 1)
ton," the Massachusetts governor declared.

Mr. Bush's aides later conceded that the governor had turned in a forceful performance but argued that he had displayed the liberal qualities they could use against him.

And by large, the Bush sides did not praise their candidate's performance, but sought to raise doubts about Mr. Dukakis. The Dukakis side, meanwhile, said its man had fared much better than the vice president.

Adopting a goading tone, Mr. Dukakis referred to the vice president as "George" and, at one point, simply as "Bush," and he returned repeatedly to administration drug

policy and to the sale of American arms to Iran and the subsequent secret diversion of some proceeds to the Nicaraguan rebels.

For his part, Mr. Bush denounced Mr. Dukakis as a "strong liberal Democrat" — the vice president used the word "liberal" at least seven times in an hour and a half — who would return the United States to the "mafias" and high interest rates of the Carter presidency.

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World Economy: Debt Strategies

Debt-Equity Swaps: A Match Gone Awry

By Marybeth Nibley

LONDON — Coping with the developing world's debts calls for creativity. When innovators sought means of lightening the debt load in a way that would attract foreign investment they thought of debt to equity conversions.

The union of the two seemed like a good marriage of convenience. Critics argue that it is far from a perfect match.

"If it's done the right way, it can be very beneficial," said Sir William Rycroft, executive vice president of the International Finance Corporation, a World Bank affiliate. "We at the IFC are rather keen on the idea of debt-equity swaps."

These swaps are part of the global trend toward the securitization of debt. An example of how a conversion works would involve a commercial bank worried about whether one of its loans to a country will be repaid.

The commercial bank decides to get the questionable loan off its books by dumping it on the secondary market at a discount. For a loan of \$100 million, the commercial bank might sell it through a merchant bank for \$70 million and take a loss of \$30 million. The size of the discount depends on the loan's quality.

The conversion of the loan into equity occurs next. The merchant bank finds a client which needs the currency of the debtor country, such as a multinational corporation planning to expand an operation. The bank arranges for the sale of the loan to the client.

After buying the loan, the company negotiates with the central bank of the debtor country, such as a multinational corporation planning to expand an operation. The bank arranges for the sale of the loan to the client.

After buying the loan, the company negotiates with the central bank of the debtor country to buy the loan for say 80 percent to 90 percent of its value in local currency, allowing the company to obtain local currency at a discount.

For acting as intermediary, the merchant bank charges a fee based on a percentage of the value of the overall deal.

"There is no standard fee in this business at all," according to Gordon Wood, who specializes in this field for Salomon Brothers International Inc. in London.

The fees vary because the complexity of the deals varies. There are few simple sales of debt for cash, market sources said, and banks may

prefer to exchange a loan for another loan thought to be less risky.

Reasons for selling the loans also vary. Banks' motivations for reshuffling their loan portfolios may reflect a desire to reduce a category of risk, manage tax exposure or alter a portfolio's life.

The secondary market in Third World debt, which straddles Wall Street and London, operates as a type of matchmaker between buyers and sellers. Typically, a deal will begin when an investment house is asked by a company to locate a loan of sufficient size to produce a desired amount of local currency of a country in which the company intends to invest.

The amount of debt sold in the market has been estimated at \$3 billion to \$5 billion a year. How much of that volume reflects debt eventually transformed into equity is impossible to quantify precisely.

But banking sources say that since the market started operating and the debt-equity swap process began in 1983, only a small percentage of all outstanding loans have been converted. For certain countries that administer formal schemes under which their commercial bank debt goes through the metamorphosis — such as Chile — the percentage is higher.

Chile's scheme is generally regarded as the most efficiently run of the dozen or so in existence. Other countries with such government-regulated programs or that are planning to start them include Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Jamaica, the Philippines and Venezuela. The Mexican scheme was suspended in November 1987.

Elsewhere, the process takes place along less formal lines. The debt of Nigeria, Poland, Yugoslavia and Zambia also has been involved in conversions.

Conversions sometimes are conducted outside the framework of a country's scheme so market sources are reluctant to give even approximate totals of the amount of a country's debt that has been changed into equity.

According to rough estimates prepared by one banker, more than \$3.1 billion of Chile's \$12.7 billion of commercial bank debt have been converted into equity investment since the country launched its scheme in 1985.

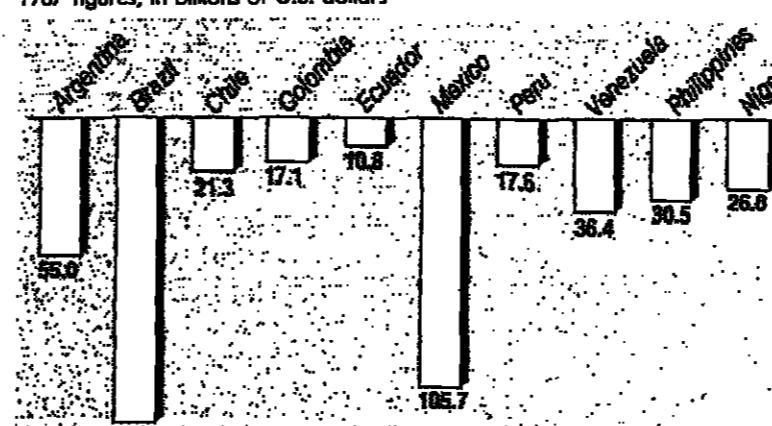
The same banker estimates Brazilian debt converted into equity amounts to about \$4 billion. Brazil's commercial debt comes to \$66 billion.

Comparing conversion totals with debt aggregates is misleading, however. Debt-equity

Continued on page 8

The World's Top Debtors

1987 figures, in billions of U.S. dollars



Source: JP Morgan



A rise in Brazilian agricultural exports is helping to alleviate debt problems.

Latin America Development Bank

'For most countries, the problem is how to pay interest, not whether debt is rising or falling. That means, you want a solution that attacks the interest problem, not the debt problem.'

Talk of Relief Brings A Palpable Change In Creditor Attitudes

By Carl Gewirtz

BERLIN — Debt relief, dirty words rarely spoken during the six-year-old debt crisis of developing countries, is finally becoming a subject of polite conversation.

Although the debt strategy is on the official agenda of this week's annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank in West Berlin, no dramatic new approaches are expected to be adopted.

The upcoming U.S. presidential election casts a huge shadow over the meetings, with everyone waiting for the new administration to take office before seriously attempting to reshape the official strategy of coping with the problem.

But debt relief will be a major talking point — not only among the participants, finance ministers and central bank officials, but also among the important invited guests, the world's leading commercial bankers whose institutions hold a huge chunk of the debt.

The effervescence of changing attitudes among creditors is palpable.

The major industrialized countries, which hold the bulk of the debt of the poorest nations in sub-Saharan Africa, have already shown their willingness to reduce the debt burden of those countries through partial write-offs, interest rate cuts or stretched-out repayment periods.

The more serious — and still unaddressed — question concerns the relatively small group of 17 most highly indebted developing countries.

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, the Philippines, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia account for half the total debt of all 109 developing nations and about 70 percent of the debt extended by commercial banks.

In the run-up to the IMF-World Bank annual meeting, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development called on commercial banks to write off 30 percent of the debt, a radical proposal rejected out of hand not only by bankers but also by analysts at the IMF and the World Bank.

But even the IMF and the World Bank, whose studied caution reflects an unwillingness to get out in front of their principal

shareholder, the United States, are signaling that the time has come to rethink the official strategy.

The World Bank, citing "a pattern of shortfalls from reasonable expectations" in the implementation of that strategy, warned that progress "cannot be sustained in the medium term."

A recent World Bank study said that "the need to find new forms of consensual debt relief is growing for some countries. As for the IMF, it said that 'solutions to the debt difficulties ... must take into account market realities.' That reality is the steep discount at which banks are willing to sell their loans — discounts which the developing countries want to share."

In his pre-meeting press conference in West Berlin last week, the IMF's managing director, Michel Camdessus, was more explicit, stating that debt reduction is "now recognized as a necessary part of the process to alleviate the debt burden."

Member governments of these organizations, and not just the debtor countries, are also pushing for new thinking on the subject.

Japan, for example, has signaled its intention to seek an airing at the West Berlin meetings of a plan it failed to get a hearing for at the Toronto economic summit meeting of the seven leading industrialized nations in June.

The Japanese proposal would have the IMF administer a special trustee fund, set up with foreign reserves transferred by debtor countries, to guarantee bonds that the debtors issue in exchange for existing loans owed to commercial banks. The loans would be swapped for bonds at a discount.

The French government, which was in the forefront pushing for relief for the poorest African states, is also known to be working on a plan that would benefit the middle-income countries so heavily indebted to commercial banks.

Meanwhile, commercial bankers, with the Deutsche Bank chairman, Alfred Herrhausen, in the lead, speak openly of the need for partial debt forgiveness.

A panel of U.S. bankers, chaired by Anthony Solomon, now head of S.G. Warburg (USA) and former president of the New York Federal Reserve Bank, has called for "voluntary debt

Continued on page 9

Local trade strength. Global support.



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For Latin Lenders, The Crisis Is Over

By William A. Orme Jr.

FOR most international banks, the debt emergency of the 1980s is over. The biggest creditors have built up reserve buffers against moratorium threats. "Busy assets" traders are assiduously purging portfolios of Latin loans. At steepening discounts, at least \$15 billion in Latin American debts have been bought by foreign investors, local entrepreneurs, and, most interestingly, the sovereign debtors themselves.

"There is no real debt crisis anymore," asserted a top Latin American debt specialist at a leading Wall Street investment bank. "The international financial system is not in jeopardy. There are only 11 or 12 major banks in the world that are still in real trouble because of their LDC portfolios."

But in Latin America, as in much of the rest of the socioeconomically diverse world known to bankers as the Less Developed Countries, the debt crisis is stubbornly alive and kicking. In most countries, interest payments continue to consume one-third or more of export earnings. Per capita economic growth is still stuck on zero, as it has been since the decade began.

Falling real wages and rising foreign debt payments are pushing fiscally orthodox governments out of power and promoting a new wave of populism. From Carlos Saúl Menem in Argentina to Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas in Mexico, nationalist politicians throughout the region are skillfully tapping popular resentment against foreign banks and, more critically, against the local officials with whom the creditors negotiate.

"The irony is that the more militant, recalcitrant types may do better in debt negotiations than the governments that have tried to be cooperative," commented a New York banker involved with Latin American debt. "Threats of moratorium seem real from these guys. The negotiators who are more experienced, the people we get along with, may understand our regulatory problems and shareholder problems a little too well."

He singled out Mexico's public credit director, Angel Gurria, who is widely respected among bankers for the professionalism and doggedness with which he has pursued better rescheduling terms since Mexico's debt crisis started six years ago. Having served two governments to date and expected to maintain a key role in the incoming Salinas administration, Mr. Gurria is by far the most experienced member of Latin America's debt negotiating corps.

Now, however, Mr. Gurria is meeting stiff resistance from bankers as he pushes a plan for new debt-reducing bonds bearing both interest and principal guarantees from creditor countries.

"It is so easy to say no to Angel," the banker said. "He knows where we are coming from."

Yet even Mr. Gurria, who has always scrupulously avoided any suggestion of con-

frontation, is betraying increasing despair at the slow pace of debt reform. Pointing to the deep loan discounts on the secondary market, the stronger reserves position of the banks and the continuing net transfer of funds out of Latin America into creditor coffers, Mr. Gurria says that Mexico's debt servicing obligations should be chopped in half.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean calculates that the net transfer of financial resources from this poor region to the industrialized nations totals an extraordinary \$147 billion between 1982 and 1987; last year alone Latin America sent \$16.9 billion more to creditors than it received.

As the World Bank notes in its newly released annual report, the aggregate per capita gross domestic product of Latin America and the Caribbean increased a paltry 0.4 percent last year. Yet the World Bank's net new lending to the entire developing world came to barely \$4 billion in the past June-to-June fiscal year; if interest payments are included along with amortization, poor countries paid \$1.9 billion more to the World Bank in the year than they got back in new credits.

IN LATIN America, only the rural Andes and Central America, plus Haiti and northeastern Brazil, truly belong to the Fourth World of absolute impoverishment. Bankers point to the recent Bolivian buy-back plan as a possible model for the region's smaller, poorer debtors: paying 11 cents on the dollar in a voluntary agreement with private creditors. Bolivia has canceled the bulk of its \$4 billion debt.

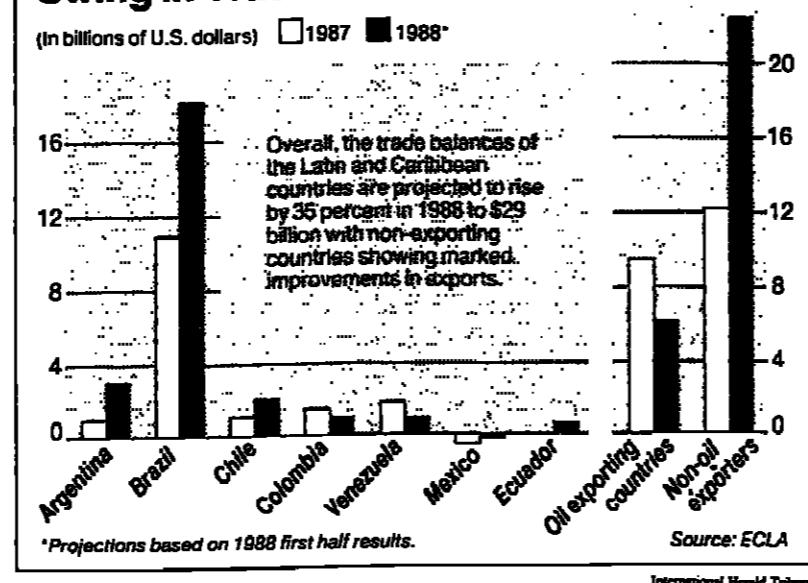
"I don't see why Peru couldn't do a buy-back, and Central America is another interesting area," said Martin Schubert of Euromoney, a New York investment bank that is credited with starting the secondary loan market five years ago.

The five Central American countries together hold debts with a face value of \$17.3 billion. But the commercial component of these loans are traded on average for 15 cents on the dollar or less. A coordinated repurchasing effort with backing from Washington could quickly and inexpensively relieve the economic pressure on the war-tattered isthmus, bankers note.

Most Latin Americans, however, live in a society that is too urbanized, industrialized and — relatively — stable to qualify for concessionary buy-backs or write-downs. And in the biggest economies — Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Venezuela and Chile — the major banks "simply have too much at stake to walk away," one New York banker said.

"As soon as Mexican or Brazilian debt falls below 50 cents, the big banks start buying," a loan trader at a New York brokerage said last month. "Their perception is that the debts have gotten too cheap, and

Swing in Trade Balances



with all that Mexican and Brazilian debt on their books, they want to protect the value of their assets."

Yet many bankers say they recognize that, while creditors could generally survive the debt problem under current payment norms, many debtors cannot.

Calls for debt relief normally ascend in parallel with dollar interest rates. What is unusual is that arguments advanced for years by Latin American finance ministers are now being articulated by bankers of impeccable establishment credentials.

The 2-point rise in the London interbank rate since January "will add at least \$8 billion to the debt-servicing costs of capital-importing developing countries," noted a recent debt study group chaired by Anthony Solomon, a former New York Federal Reserve president, and Rodney B. Wagner, a vice chairman of the Credit Policy Committee of Morgan Guaranty Trust.

The study group, which also included such Latin American debt stalwarts as William Rhodes, the perennial steering committee chairman, and Eugene Rotberg, formerly of the World Bank, now with Merrill Lynch, warned that rising interest rates and sluggish international economic growth "could make it difficult for even some of the stronger troubled debtor countries to make their payments."

While asserting that debt relief alone will not produce economic growth unless coupled with market-oriented economic policies, the group pointedly added that the gap between debt-servicing outflows and financial inflows from all sources may be so large as to impede sustained economic growth by a debtor country, even that has enacted effective reforms."

In its key recommendation, the panel said it had concluded after six months of discussion that voluntary cuts in debt servicing "should be considered as an alternative to increased borrowing." The group, sponsored by the United Nations Association of the United States of America, said in its report that "in most cases, some combination of debt reduction and new money will be required to solve the problem."

Not all bankers agree. Susan Segal, the

senior vice president of heavily exposed Manufacturers Hanover, formally dissented from the panel's consensus call for partial, voluntary debt relief.

"Although we agree with the report's conclusion that debt service reduction programs should remain voluntary, we feel that, in many instances, their broad application, even on a cooperative and negotiated basis, could very well hinder the flow of funds necessary to keep these countries on the road toward sustained economic growth," she wrote.

Opposition to across-the-board debt relief is also strong among regional banks in the United States and Europe. But the Institute of International Finance, a research and lobbying organization directly supported by money center banks, is now publicly warning that private lenders are unwilling to supply the amount of fresh loans that Latin and other Third World debtors need to keep current on payments.

There is a major risk that sharply rising world interest rates will jeopardize further [economic] progress, even in countries which have struggled to maintain consistently strong adjustment efforts and service outstanding debts," Horst Schulman, the institute's managing director, said this month.

Mr. Schulman, unsurprisingly, voices the bankers' view that "it is clear that debt relief schemes which involve the involuntary participation of private creditors do not provide a solution." Commercial bankers would rather see the World Bank and the IMF step up their own lending while underwriting bond conversions and other debt reduction mechanisms.

The World Bank responds that private creditors should give the Third World another \$9 billion or so in fresh money every year. Implicitly, though, official and commercial lenders alike are acknowledging that the present debt system is unsustainable, and without reform further unilateral servicing stoppages are probable.

WILLIAM A. ORME JR. is editor of *LatinFinance*, a monthly magazine published by Euromoney in Miami.

Evidence Is Overwhelming On Need for Debt Reduction

By Jeffrey Sachs

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — We have arrived at a critical juncture in the international debt crisis. Until this year, the creditor world has maintained a unified stand regarding developing country debt, insisting that all interest must be paid at market rates and that no principal should be forgiven, no matter what the economic cost to the debtor countries. This position has now collapsed under the weight of the worsening economic and political crisis in Africa and Latin America.

Leading bankers have finally acknowledged the need for significant reduction of the debt burden. Several creditor governments have arrived at a similar view. Even the defenders of orthodoxy, the management of the International Monetary Fund, have acknowledged quietly that the debt must be reduced to a manageable level.

The IMF, however, has been reticent to come forward with this view, because of its wish to avoid a confrontation with its leading "shareholder," the United States.

The evidence of the need for debt reduction is by now overwhelming. Despite six years of IMF-supervised adjustment, the middle-income countries of

parties that make a popular case for a debt moratorium.

With the economic and political weight of the debts having reached a critical level, the real fight now is over who should pay for the needed debt relief. In the poorest countries, where the bank debt is low, the answer is clear that the official creditors will have to accept losses. At the Toronto summit meeting, this much was acknowledged.

For the middle-income countries of Latin America, however, where most of the debt is owed to banks, the debate is sharper. Many of the big banks, with the surprising ally of the U.S. Treasury, make the case that the burden should be eased through more official lending to the debtor world, rather than through smaller debt payments to the banks. The banks, of course, are hoping for a disguised bailout in which taxpayer money supports loans by the World Bank and IMF that help the debtor countries to pay their interest bill to the banks.

This bailout scenario is far advanced, even though the taxpayers in the creditor world don't yet understand it.

Consider the case of Argentina, for example. Almost all professional economists recognize that Argentina can afford to pay only a small fraction of its debts. Indeed, the secondary market price of Argentine debt is now \$22 per \$100 face value, reflecting the widespread expectation that Argentina will pay little more than one-fifth of the debt due.

Yet when Argentina fell into deep arrears this year on the bank debt, the response of the official creditor world was to provide Argentina with fresh official funds with which to make full interest payments to the banks. The IMF is now at work on a \$1.2 billion loan to Argentina, and the World Bank expects to announce soon new balance of payments support around \$80 million for the next 12 months. This \$2 billion of official lending should enable the banks to receive interest payment from Argentina, in excess of new loans, of about \$2 billion.

More generally, the banks expect that the new \$5 billion general capital increase of the World Bank, and new funding next year for the IMF, will help to pay for a continued flow of interest payments to the banks. The bankers' lobbying association, the Institute of International Finance, was fairly explicit on the banks' strategy last week when it notified the IMF that the private banks will no longer contribute much in the way of new funds to the developing world, calling instead for more official lending.

There is, of course, a more efficient and fair way to bring about the necessary debt reduction, and that would be for the commercial banks to recognize their losses on their developing country loans by offering the developing world a sustained reduction in interest rates and principal. The taxpayers could support this debt reduction by having the IMF and World Bank guarantee a portion of the debt that remains after the debt reduction.

The banking system is now capable of absorbing losses on developing country debt without fundamental risk to its capital base. Reducing the burden on bank debt would not only be fair and manageable, but would likely benefit the banks themselves in the coming years, by stabilizing the economic and political environment of the troubled debtor countries, thereby allowing these countries to start growing again.

JEFFREY SACHS, a professor of economics at Harvard University, is an adviser to several Latin American governments on macroeconomic stabilization policy.

Creditors Talking of Debt Relief

Continued from page 7

service reduction — including debt exchanges, debt equity conversions and exit bonds — to be pursued as a serious alternative and complement to more lending."

William Rhodes, Citibank's chief debt negotiator, speaking for the bank but expressing a view of most of the American banks, supports "voluntary debt reduction" by the banks but says that "we oppose global schemes" or "debt forgiveness."

The Canadians, with fourth-largest Bank of Nova Scotia in the lead, have proposed a complex plan that includes substantial and temporary interest rate reductions "geared to some concept of ability to pay."

An estimated annual interest cut of 2 percentage points could save the 17 most indebted countries \$5 billion to \$6 billion per year.

At present — and likely for a while — all this talk is still a cappuccino. Behind the widening recognition that relief is needed there are strongly divergent views: Should it be across the board, or only available to debtors undertaking far-reaching economic reforms? If relief is negotiated in exchange for reforms, how can that conditionality be controlled?

The debtors have established a terrible track record, repeatedly failing to live up to undertakings made in exchange for

loans from the IMF and commercial banks.

Part of their failure to live up to promises is linked to the still unresolved institutional conflict between the sister international organizations, the IMF and the World Bank. The IMF's overly short horizon rarely stretches beyond 18 months while the World Bank, a long-term lender of 20-year money, does not see itself as an economic policeman.

The problem in the middle-income countries, said an official who asked not to be named, is one-third fiscal mismanagement, which could be taken care of by the IMF, and two-thirds long-term structural mismanagement, which can be corrected unless you monitor and survey it for a year.

Another fundamental divergence in the call for debt relief is whether or not that includes commercial banks continuing to lend new money. Continental European bankers are ready to discuss relief schemes, the Americans say, but not ready to lend money.

"There is an extraordinary misunderstanding on debt relief," said Rüdiger Dornbusch, professor of international economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Today, the only way for banks to keep current on debt service is to pay themselves half the interest. Suppose the banks write off half the debt, they write off the part they have been financing with new money. The country still has

half the debt they were paying interest on, so nothing has changed. The only thing changed is that debt isn't piling up on debt anymore.

"But the problem of paying half the interest — which is crucifying them now — would be exactly unchanged. And that's a problem. It's puzzling why this is not understood."

He warned of a "terrible disillusionment" among creditors as well as debtors if banks were to write off half their debt and countries still had an insupportable external debt problem. To relieve the debt burden, he said, 95 percent of the debt would have to be forgiven.

"For some countries, like Mexico, that's crazy. If the price of oil doubles in two years — that's not certain, but probable — Mexico will have no problem servicing its debt. So why write it off instead of restructuring it?"

"For most countries," he insisted, "the problem is how to pay interest, not whether debt is rising or falling. That means, you want a solution that attacks the interest problem, not the debt problem."

Recycling of interest payments to debtor countries would solve much of their problems, Professor Dornbusch said. That means interest payments to the banks remain invested in the country for 10 years. "Creditors get their money, but have to wait 10 years to take it out. And those 10 years give Mexico the time to reconstruct its economy to support the debt service," he said.

"Because the banks are not taking the money out, the country's foreign exchange crisis is gone. There is investment in Mexico again, and because the economy is taking off, private capital comes back. Then there's money to pay back the banks' in foreign currency, he added."

"As with a bank run, we have to suspend convertibility, get the thing restructured and in the end everyone can have their money. In a run, nobody gets it."

Professor Dornbusch would apply such a program to Mexico, before it slips back into a current-account deficit — which he sees as inevitable next year. He would have the banks reward the country for its reform efforts to date by offering to recycle interest before next year's payments difficulties and inevitable political crisis over servicing the debt.

Symbolically significant — albeit insignificant compared to the total overhang — relief of commercial bank debt has been taking place. Banks' willingness to unload some of their loans at a discount, to investors who use the face amount to make investments in the debtor countries, has eliminated some of the debt.

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CARL GEWIRTZ is an associate editor of the International Herald Tribune.

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Africa Addresses Issue Of Cost of Borrowing

By Fiammetta Rocco

LONDON — It is very rare that the difficulties of small, impoverished countries capture the imagination of the rest of the world with sufficient force that a solution to their immediate problems, even if only temporary, is hammered out.

Bob Geldof's Band Aid concert for the starving in Ethiopia was one such example, and, on a broader level, so was the world's response to the plight of the "boat people" of Southeast Asia in the early 1980s.

In mid-1988, the economic difficulties that plagued Africa for nearly two decades finally caught the global spotlight when the seven leaders at the Western summit meeting in Toronto put the continent's mounting debt problem high on their agenda.

The issue had been growing in importance for well over a year, ever since Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson had announced a British proposal and the United Nations subsequently published the findings of a special investigation into the subject.

But it was only in Toronto, when President François Mitterrand of France put forward yet another proposal, that Africa's debt as a topic of world concern really took off.

The summit discussed three options: canceling one-third of the government and government-backed commercial loans to black Africa, stretching out repayment schedules on existing debt to 25 years at market rates, and fixing maturities at 15 years with interest rates reduced by as much as half.

This last could offer the continent as much as \$500 million in relief from interest payments between 1988 and 1990 alone, according to French calculations.

The options offered donor countries "the maximum number of possibilities with the least number of exits," as one observer put it. And President Mitterrand soon found support for the plan from unexpected quarters as the United States and West Germany.

The initiative was unprecedented. Not only

was it being openly discussed at a world political level, but the solutions proposed — debt forgiveness and concessions on interest rates — would have been considered heretical two years previously, and probably thrown out altogether.

The move signaled "a better understanding to bring help to Africa," Ide Ossouou, the secretary-general of the Organization of African Unity, said after the summit. What is more, it was a political endeavor that addressed for the first time the issue of the cost of debt rather than calling for simple increases in capital flows to the continent that had been the solution previously.

All told, it showed significant progress. But much is in danger of being brushed over in the general hullabaloo that surrounded the Toronto pronouncements. Most significant is the fact that the Mitterrand proposals make no attempt to deal with the problem of the existing debt stock, a large portion of which has been chalked up as recapitalized obligations rather than inflows of new money.

Nor do the proposals offer African governments, for whom rescheduling debt has become virtually a full-time process, the opportunity of planning long-term for the future.

At \$218 billion, black Africa's debt is about the same size as Brazil's. But the makeup of the continent's indebtedness points to difficulties that far outweigh the size of the obligations.

Only a small handful of African countries have never had to reschedule, among them Kenya and Zimbabwe. The process is immensely time-consuming and has led Babacar N'Diaye, president of the African Development Bank, to observe that "to be a good finance minister in Africa today you first have to be a good debt negotiator."

Yet the relief afforded by these reschedulings is largely illusory, since much of the unpaid debt is simply rolled forward at higher rates. Zaire, for example, has been back to the rescheduling table so many times that 50 percent of its external debt consists of recapitalized interest.

As the sinking fund fills up, the theory goes, Zaire's stock in the market would improve, as will its access to new development money. Moreover, Zaire would continue to implement a program of economic reform spelled out by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and its performance would be monitored by a trustee board of its major creditors, which would also administer the sinking fund.

In the nine months since the plan was first put forward, creditors have accepted the idea that a distinction can be made between creditors without risk of what they call the domino effect and the concept of concessional rates, since Toronto, is much more acceptable.

Their greatest fear, however, in accepting Mr. N'Diaye's proposals is that creditors will



Wares on display at a market in Zaire.

Mr. N'Diaye's own debt plan, launched at a special OAU session on African debt last December, addressed this problem directly. Advised with the help of the London merchant bank S.G. Warburg & Co., the N'Diaye plan proposes something like a home mortgage.

Using Zaire as a test case, it proposes converting the country's \$5 billion bilateral government and commercial bank debt into 20-year tradable securities. The paper would carry concessional, 4 percent interest, and repayment of the principal would be guaranteed at maturity by a sinking fund into which Zaire would pay 2 percent of the principal every year.

These terms are based on Zaire's debt servicing record — it kept payments to a steady 18 percent of export earnings between 1981-86.

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FLAMMETTA ROCCO is a contributing editor to *Institutional Investor* and author of *"The African Development Bank: Financing Growth to the 1990s," London 1985.*

Conversions Become Key Strategy Among U.S. Banks

By Linda Keslar

NEW YORK — Until this year, U.S. banks were handicapped in converting their Third World debt into equity shares in nonbanking companies by the American Federal Reserve's "Regulation K," which limited their investment in nonfinancial assets.

Now that this rule has been eased, gold mines, fisheries and forest companies are just a few Third World companies in which U.S. banks hold stakes.

In fact, debt-equity conversions have become a key strategy among banks like Citicorp and Bankers Trust as a way to reduce their

Third World loan exposure. Other initiatives include the outright sale of the loans, write-offs and debt for debt swaps to quickly dispose of troubled foreign loans.

As a result of such tactics, "banks don't view LDC debt as life-threatening issue any more," said Noel Dugat, vice chairman of International Capital Corp., an American Express subsidiary. And, since many U.S. banks have also been raising more capital, Third World loans have declined both absolutely and relatively.

For the 13 largest banks in the United States, loans to developing countries have shrunk to 101 percent of total equity capital for the first half of this year, from 157 percent a year ago, according to Salomon Brothers.

Citicorp's effort has been most aggressive. It

reduced its loan exposure to developing countries by \$2 billion just a year after it announced its \$3 billion loan loss provision.

Some banks, though, have done very little. BankAmerica Corp., which accounts for more than 70 percent of the Third World exposure for the four largest California banks, reduced its exposure by only 9 percent in the past year, according to the Salomon study.

The most popular strategy for many have been outright sales, possible because of the growing secondary market for Third World debt. The biggest sellers have been the American regional banks, such as First Interstate, which in the second quarter sold almost all its Argentine loans.

The bigger banks have also been selling

loans, but many are hindered by the sliding bid prices reflecting the oversupply of debt in the secondary market for troubled loans.

Debt-for-debt swaps are another strategy, particularly in the private sector in Brazil, Mexico and Argentina. Through a deal organized for Mexico that involved the U.S. Treasury, Morgan Guaranty canceled some \$400 million in its exposure there earlier this year. The bond for debt swap also reduced the Mexican government's foreign bank debt by \$1.1 billion.

LINDA KESLAR is a financial journalist based in New York.

Good Prospects for 1988

Current account 1st half 1988:

Group figures	1st half 1988	1st half 1987	Change
Sales	DM 21,381 mio	DM 19,481 mio	+ 9.8%
Net income	DM 335 mio	DM 304 mio	+ 10.2%
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International Herald Tribune
ONE famous face was missing from the gala evening staged by Yves Saint Laurent in London.

The Duchess of York — Saint Laurent's most conspicuous British client — had flown off the day before for a visit to Australia and a reunion with husband Andrew, the navy lieutenant. In a break with royal tradition, Sarah's wardrobe includes couture and ready-to-wear outfits by Saint Laurent. Her sister-in-law, Diana, is obliged to wear British clothes at least in public.

High-profile guests at the show — which was both Rive Gauche and the acclaimed July couture collection — included Jerry Hall in camel jacket and see-through chiffon blouse worn demurely over a lace bra; and Sally Burton, taking time off from promoting the diaries of her late husband, Richard Burton.

Showstoppers in a sea of shapey black Saint Laurent suits were the French ambassador's wife, Hedwige de La Barre de Nanteuil, in cyclamen pink, and Michael Caine's beautiful Indian-born wife, Shakira. She was wearing a paisley throw and striking gold jewelry, part of a collection she has designed with Sumita Pilambar who made the jewels for Diana Vreeland's India exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum in New York. The jewelry will be introduced to the United States in October.

SUZY MENKES



Richard Young/Sipa



Alden Gemmer/Photo Plus

Lagerfeld at 50: A Pro at Play

International Herald Tribune
PARIS — "I feel that the best is still to come — that up till now I have been a dilettante all my life," says Karl Lagerfeld as he reaches his 50th birthday.

The polymath designer has been celebrating this month with his fashion families a warm-hearted

all-Italian party hosted by Anna Fendi and her sisters, whom Lagerfeld has worked with since 1962 — half his life and most of his career.

Then there was the more formal Paris party, held in his honor by Chanel, whose midlife fashion image he has so spectacularly rejuvenated. For this celebration, Lagerfeld was inexorably, but characteristically, three hours late.

"I was born late," he announces, bursting (only 40 minutes behind schedule) into the dimming room of the Ritz. It is a fit setting for his brand of sophisticated luxury. He expresses that in his person with a discreet lace edging on a white cotton shirt and black crocheted lace ("Matsuda") and a fine black and white cameo tie pin from his collection ("a Christmas present from Prince Rainier"). Although he

has long since abandoned the 18th century frock coats, brocaded vests and flittering ruffs, there is still a hint of the fastidious dandy. His tailored jacket is from Yohji Yamamoto.

"I am not at all Japanese in shape, not small. Yet Japanese clothes fit me best," he says.

Does he, at that moment, remember that he launched his first menswear collection two weeks before? The film he made for that show expresses his life and current enthusiasms. It featured his fashion friends in a baroque chateau wearing various ensembles in enigmatic vignettes.

"I always want my pictures to be part of a story line," says the designer, who took up photography in order to evoke the spirit of Chanel. His witty and charming pictures for Chanel's July couture collection, show house model, muse and piquant friend Inès de la Fressange, in scenes from Shakespeare.

The menswear film — done on the run like the rest of Lagerfeld's life — was shot in one weekend. A new film, featuring Inès and Princess Caroline of Monaco, strictly for private consumption, is under preparation for Monte Carlo's Christmas festivities. And he has been photographing Caroline in aspects of her domestic and official life, for Vanity Fair magazine. Lagerfeld, often spiky about fashion colleagues, is lavish in his affection for Princess Caroline.

"She is the ideal modern woman," he says. "Fun, clever, intelligent and a good mother. She is not at all like her public image."

He talks in a rush of words, punctuated by interrogative stops, in four languages: French (he started his career at design school in Paris at the age of 14); Italian; English, in a rapid staccato; and his native German. He has recently replanted fashion roots in Germany by signing with Steinmann to create a KL sportswear line.

He speaks first and thinks later. The fast mind, quick wit and entertaining eloquence have landed him in trouble. He invited wrath by describing the seductive lines of a Fendi collection as "shaped to be raped."

"It was just a misprint, you know," he now announces. "It should have been 'draped' but they missed off one letter." With similar insouciance, he dismissed as "wine stains" the blood-red splashes in a Fendi collection that celebrated, to supreme effect, the wild side of fur. Lagerfeld's most uncomfortable gaffe was to denigrate Yves Saint Laurent, (born in Algeria and a fashion rival when he and Lagerfeld were both students) as a *pied-noir* — a term referring to repatriated North African-born French.

Saint Laurent's Pierre Bergé has recently retaliated by describing Lagerfeld as "fashion mercenary." That has a sting of truth. Karl Lagerfeld is at his most productive, persuasive and effective when he is on hire. That was true of his 20-year span with Chloé, where Lagerfeld more or less invented luxe ready-to-wear. His 1970s collections were memorable in a fashion decade devoted to *nouveau pauvre* — bias-cut crepe de chine dresses whispering across the body, graceful cape coats, attenuated cashmere knits and inventive embroideries of gateaux, scissors, fans, etc., or even a doosie of sequins cascading down the back.

Chloé celebrated *le flou* — fluid dressing with Lagerfeld's perception of taste and luxury. It also celebrated a fashion partnership between the designer and Chloé's then owners, Gaby Aghion and Jacques Lénor, about whom Lagerfeld was famously dismissive. The same relationship is being repeated at Chanel. Although the point of leaving Chloé in 1982 was to set up his own house, Karl Lagerfeld's outstanding success of the 1980s has been at Chanel, where he has interpreted Mademoiselle's image with a light hand and heart. His irreverent approach to a house that had become weighed down by tradition has been very effective, from the shiny new Chanel suit with its widened shoulder line and short skirt, to the deliciously sophisticated evening clothes and witty accessories. He is liked and well-supported by the atelier, directed by Gilles Dufour, who, like Carine Fendi, acts as a lightning conductor for the designer's flashes of inspiration.

Lagerfeld's reaction to his success at Chanel is throwaway, don't care — as though the four Chanel collections a year were done in his spare time as a favor. He talks of "my clothes." Coco Chanel seems to be relegated to a detail of fashion history. Lagerfeld's public attitude to a management that has supported him unconditionally (and reaped rich rewards) is arrogant, even mischievous.

"Should I set up a couture house



Inès de la Fressange, as photographed by Karl Lagerfeld, inset.

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"Should I set up a couture house

cultured and clever for the more vapid members of fashion's demimonde, and he is not a social animal. He invites friends to stay in his various much-publicized homes. (His Monte Carlo apartment has just been done up with 18th century Swedish furnishings and a canopied bed.)

"I am a terrible host," he says. "When I have people to stay they never see me, except at lunch, and maybe not even then." His favorite moments, he says, are when he is quite alone "with a piece of white paper to draw on and a horrible German sausage."

His passion is books, which he buys in profusion and devours or gives to friends. To those to whom he is close, he is warm, generous, even to excess. They are asked, as one puts it, "to be father and mother, brother and sister and wife, because this is his family."

Karl Lagerfeld's father — a millionaire from dried milk manufacture — was 60 when his son was born. "So he was 80 when I was 20," says Lagerfeld, "and my bank manager told me that I was like a little dancer, I could do just what I liked with him."

It is an odd metaphor for father and son. His parents sent him — allowed him — to go to Paris to study dress design at the age of 14.

"A German publisher has offered me a fortune for the story of my early life in Germany," he says. "But I can't do it while there are so many people alive. It will not be published in my lifetime."

He is now working on a children's book (his godfather to Yul Brynner's kids, among others). His delicate drawings will illustrate a new version of the classic tale of "The Emperor's New Clothes."

The title suggests an unpalatable truth about Lagerfeld's own label collections in the house he set up in 1984. Five years on there are the biannual shows, the German sportswear line, furs for Revillon, the new menswear made under license in Italy, the fragrances and a new bag and perfume collection, launched in Paris Tuesday.

In these collections there have been occasional high points (especially in the knitwear), a few succulent evening dresses (reminiscent of Chloé), witty ideas in sequins, fine tailoring, good hats. That does not seem enough from a high-profile designer with a powerful fashion track record.

"I am a dilettante," says Karl Lagerfeld. "But professional with it, no?"

Perhaps he finds it more amusing to play in other people's houses, than his own.

Where the Line on High Prices Is Crossed

By Enid Nemky
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Who could like them — the \$200-a-night hotel rooms, the \$1,000-a-month studio apartment rents in Manhattan, the \$55 prix fixe dinners, the \$150 boots, the \$50 hair cuts?

But life being what it is these days, the sense of shock and outrage at what were once considered astronomical and ridiculous prices has, in many cases, become either numb or muted. Once-startling totals are now accepted, not always gracefully and not necessarily by everyone, but some of them.

There are, for instance, the resigned lot who simply shrug and say "Well, that's the way it is," and fork over the required money for hotel rooms or boots or whatever. But these same people may flinch at the idea of a restaurant tab that could buy groceries for a good part of the week. Then there are those who spend \$5,000

for a stereo system, and when something goes wrong, enlist the neighbor's "handy" son rather than pay a \$200 service charge.

There is a line-drawing point for everyone, a different line for different individuals, an unreasonable line sometimes, a quirky line maybe, but the line is there. It comes into play almost as frequently over strange and comparatively inexpensive things as it does when substantial amounts are involved.

Terrie Williams, who owns a public relations firm, admits that she does not think twice about paying \$1,500 for season tickets to New York Knicks games. However, once there, or in any stadium, she will not pay \$2.50 or \$3.00 for a hot dog or \$1 or more for potato chips. No way.

"I bring my own things to nibble," she said. "If I'm with someone and they want to buy it for me, fine, but I can't do it."

If there is a \$30 price tag on an undershirt or shorts, or a pair of shoes marked \$200, Gene

Hovis is not immobilized. But show him a tie for more than \$12 or \$15 and it will stay right where it is. Hovis, a cookbook author and food consultant, will spend \$45 for a theater ticket. But he will starve first rather than spend \$1.50 or \$2 for candy or a drink.

A restaurant check for \$40 to \$60 is not something that Christy Ferer enjoys but it does not upset her. But anything more than 60 cents for a cup of takeout coffee, anywhere, and she will suffer caffeine withdrawal. "The Waldorf has the best takeout coffee in town but I won't pay \$1.25," said Ferer.

Betsy Carter, the editor of New York Woman, spends "a lot" on her haircuts. The hands that do the editing? She went "shopping" until she found a \$5 manicure. She believes "everything I read in ads," she said, which is why she often spends \$12 and \$15 on lipstick and even more on skin cream. But when it comes to vitamins, it is off to the discount store.

Lagerfeld on
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for KL as Revillon is begging me to do?" he muses. Ralph Lauren, managing director of Karl Lagerfeld, said Monday that there were "no plans whatsoever for a couture collection at the moment."

Is he about to sign a contract with Dior, as the persistent Paris rumors suggest?

Why should I go to Dior, especially under Bernard Arnault?" retorts Lagerfeld. "Just because Bératrice Bongibault has gone from Chanel to Dior and I got on so very well with her . . ." The unfinished sentence lingers poignantly in the air. "Then, of course, Dior could do with a bit of rejuvenation, no?"

"I don't know who starts these rumors," he continues briskly. "I have written to Marc Bohan . . ." Another unfinished sentence to which Dior's designer puts an abrupt full stop. Marc Bohan, firmly in harness, says that he has received "no letter, no communication whatsoever from M. Lagerfeld."

Karl Lagerfeld is not popular in the Paris fashion world nor with its establishment, who shamefully cut him out of any citation in the fashion Oscars. He is too intelligent, too well-supported by the atelier, directed by Gilles Dufour, who, like Carine Fendi, acts as a lightning conductor for the designer's flashes of inspiration.

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at Play

Nordic Finance

Computer Links Reduce Need for A Single Bourse

By Juris Kaza

STOCKHOLM — A few people still imagine a big building, in some metropolitan center north of the Danish-German border, where Finns, Swedes, Norwegians, and Danes pimpmatch their trading floor to sell Volvo, buy Nokia and United Breweries, and wait for customer orders to set the direction of Norsk Hydro's price.

"This will never happen," says Sten Westerberg, chief economist of Enskilda Securities in London and of Enskilda Fondskommision, Scandinavian-aviska Enskilda Banken's automotive securities trading division in Stockholm.

Mr. Westerberg, who says his company is the single largest trader in Nordic securities on international markets, asserts that "Nordic politicians have been outrun by events" in the creation of a common Nordic securities market.

"We, the traders, have created a functioning market," he says, explaining that for all practical purposes, there is a Nordic market in London. London has become a larger market than even Stockholm for shares of the largest and best-known Swedish corporations since a 1-percent turnover tax was imposed on trading on the Stockholm Stock Exchange.

A broker at another large securities brokerage in Stockholm adds that a Nordic market exists wherever a foreign investor can do "one-stop shopping or trading" in securities from all of the Nordic countries.

As a practical matter, the broker said his brokerage and other large houses in Stockholm, Oslo, Copenhagen and Helsinki could offer this service through London or electronic links with affiliates in neighboring countries.

Magnus Syren, chief equity dealer

at Nordic Brokers AB, a brokerage whose primary business is "inter-dealer broking" says many foreign investors "see a total Nordic market" rather than individual markets and economies.

Mr. Syren explains that Nordic Brokers currently deals mainly in large blocks of Swedish shares, but adds "our intention is to include trading in Norwegian, Finnish, and other Scandinavian equities." The Stockholm-based brokerage's London office is the focus of this activity, according to Mr. Syren "since there are 17 market makers trading in Swedish shares in London, and 12 Swedish shares whose turnover in London is as much as the entire Stockholm Exchange on some days."

Leif Vindveag, head of research at the Stockholm Stock Exchange, says the idea of integrating Nordic markets is far from dead, even if there will never be any single physical "Nordic Stock Exchange."

"We have a limited number of big brand names that have the liquidity to trade in London," Mr. Vindveag explains, saying that sophisticated investors will want markets for shares that are more closely tied to individual Nordic economies.

This is the "specialty store" idea, to have investment opportunities that move with the Scandinavian economies and whose prices are not set on NASDAQ or in London," he says. "That is where we in Stockholm have an edge in competition."

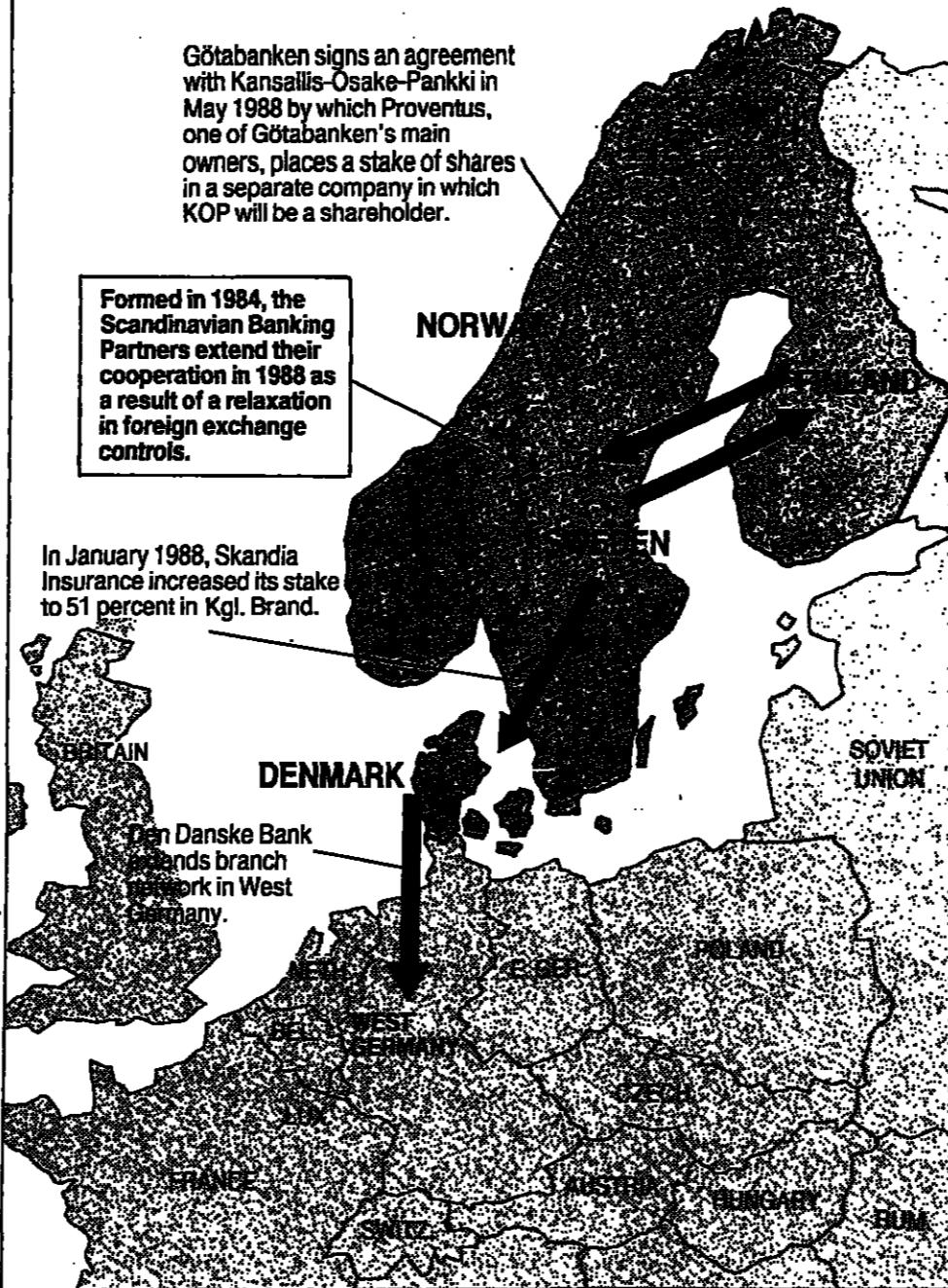
Mr. Vindveag, formerly an executive with Enskilda Fondskommision, said the Stockholm Exchange was working mainly on improving its electronic information and trading systems.

By the early 1990s, he said, Stockholm's system would make available a broad range of Swedish and Nordic equity data that would link directly into decision support systems around the world. The exchanges in the other

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Toward an Integrated Market

Cross-border agreements are multiplying between Scandinavian financial institutions to face the challenge of Europe in 1992.



Andy Sloboda/International Herald Tribune

Alliances Are Key As 1992 Looms

By Michael Metcalfe

COPENHAGEN — Worried by the quickening pace of competition within the European financial services sector at the start of the race toward European Community market integration in 1992, Nordic financial institutions are busy forming strategic cross-border alliances of their own.

However, many of the banks, insurers and other financial service companies — particularly in Sweden and Norway — find the scope of expansion severely restricted by legislation, which either limits foreign holdings in the respective Nordic countries or curbs sectoral business activities. This seriously hampers chances for creating larger pan-Nordic alliances with wider financial diversification to take on the European heavyweights.

Over the summer, Sweden's fourth-largest banking group, the Gota Group, announced that it was joining forces with Finland's leading commercial bank, Kansallis-Osake-Pankki, or KOP. The partnership entails a degree of cross-ownership through a joint holding company, which will embrace corporate and investment banking, as well as retail and data processing activities.

The move was part of a rapidly emerging pattern in the Nordic financial services sector to strengthen its position in Europe as a whole. As the countdown to the EC's single internal market gets under way, cross-shareholdings are seen by many Nordic financiers as preparation for pan-European financial services companies.

The Gota/KOP partnership is no exception. Although it is limited in scope by current Swedish legislation forbidding direct foreign participation in Swedish banks, these restraints are expected to be loosened in the near future as Swedish lawmakers come to grips with the legislative hindrances.

In line with the gradual dismantling of barriers to the free flow of capital in Europe, Sweden's central bank has relaxed exchange controls limiting foreign corporate investment in Sweden and the acquisition of foreign stock by Swedish companies.

On the domestic level, foreign-owned banking houses and other financial institutions are barred from taking stakes in Swedish banks. No such restrictions apply to insurance companies. This explains why Swedish, and to a lesser extent other Nordic, insurers — rather than

banks — are in the vanguard of cross-border alliances.

Foreign participation in Norwegian financial service companies is limited to 15 percent and there is little prospect of this ceiling being raised in the near future. This restriction helped to scotch plans by Sweden's largest insurance group, Skandia, to acquire a 25 percent holding in Vesta, Norway's second-largest insurer.

In Denmark, strict divisions between the various segments of the financial sector have begun to blur in the past decade.

Banks have moved into the traditional territory of insurers, seizing a 50 percent chunk of

Financiers find existing laws limit the scope for expansion.

the pension savings market over the past 15 years; insurers have begun to offer services in the merchant, private banking and consumer lending sectors; banks and insurers alike have moved into the brokerage business now that the monopoly of trade on the Copenhagen Bourse has been broken up.

However, current legislation forbids mutual insurance companies, where the stock is held by the policy-holders, from diversifying into other financial fields.

Denmark's three largest insurance groups — Baltic, Hafnia and Topskring — took precisely this course of action, choosing in 1985 to set up holding companies owning the majority of shares in group subsidiaries. Hafnia, the second largest insurer after Baltic, created Hafnia Bank in September 1986 as a wholly-owned subsidiary of the holding company, Hafnia Invest.

Following Hafnia's acquisition of the Danish commercial bank Faellesbanken at the end of last year, Hafnia Bank — renamed Hafnia Trust and Investment Bank — now specializes

Continued on page 12

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Iceland Awaits Strategy

By Bernard Scudder

REYKJAVIK — Fluctuations in Iceland's niche economy, where fish accounts for three-quarters of export earnings, mix both good and bad times since the well-being of the 250,000 islanders is tied exceptionally closely to rapid changes of fortune in the industry, although it only employs 15 percent of the population.

Soaring seafood prices sent growth spiraling in 1986-87, when gross domestic product rose by 6.3 percent and 7 percent respectively. But, analysts agree, the present downswing in the business cycle is unusual in the way both good and bad factors have teamed up against the accepted economic status quo.

One factor is double-digit inflation, which has plagued the country for more than 15 years. A rate of 25 percent to 30 percent is forecast for this year.

Another is a slump in world seafood prices, now exaggerated by the slide of the dollar, in which

much of Iceland's fisheries exports are denominated.

For years, such setbacks were countered with devaluations, which bought only a short breathing space and aggravated long-term inflationary trends. Devaluation is now used less often as an instrument of economic adjustment, even though the krona has already dropped twice this year by a total of 12 percent, and a further "muted" 3 percent is likely.

Real rates of interest have grown to around 10 percent above inflation since 1985, when banks were allowed to determine them for themselves. High interest reflects not only competition for savings, but also a persistent, excessive demand for money, frequently for pure consumption.

Credit, moreover, has been index-linked for eight years, but many businesses still roll along with no equity to speak of, borrowing to pay their immediate costs and grinding to a halt when revenues fall, as in the present seafood price slump.

With a few notable exceptions, business is only just beginning to wake up to share finance as an

alternative to borrowing. The market is still scarcely more than a name. Only a handful of shares are quoted, although the apparatus for development is being assembled, including a market maker, Draupnir Ltd., which was formed last year.

Overall losses by the freezing plants, which form the largest branch of the fishing sector, are officially put at 12 percent.

Meanwhile, the fall of the country's three-party coalition led by Prime Minister Thorsteinn Palsson, of the conservative Independence Party, on Sept. 17, after 14 months of wrangling with the sudden economic downswing, adds another element of instability.

It remains doubtful whether an attempt to put together a replacement coalition by the other two coalition partners, the Progressive Party and the Social Democratic Party, will result in the decisive long-term political leadership and credibility needed to set it out until the economy picks up.

Finance Minister Jon Baldvin Hammarboe had already pared new foreign borrowing by the public sector to the bone this year. Both the foreign debt-GDP ratio and debt service are actually falling, only in part due to the slide of the dollar.

Value-added tax, which was to be introduced in July 1989, could also be delayed as part of Treasury cutbacks — and with it the most tangible step so far toward structural alignment with the European Community, which is Iceland's outstanding trade partner for both imports and exports. Membership in the EC is ruled out for fear of having to share the fishing grounds.

Iceland's nonbanking sector is focusing on securities brokerage and leasing. In 1987, one-sixth of new business investments were funded by Icelandic leasing firms in what was only their second year of operation, a clear witness to the backlog of missed opportunities during decades of central credit rationing and market regulation.

The 1980s have been prosperous. The value of the markka has been stable, the trade balance satisfactory, Finnish firms and banks have been active worldwide.

But, with the easing of currency restrictions and with high interest rates, the foreign debt has grown. The current account deficit will probably be

around 12 billion markkas (\$2.7 billion) this year and up to about 17 billion in 1989. Recently concluded wage settlements have not been as moderate as hoped and private consumption is too high.

The result is continuing inflationary pressure.

Complicating factors are tax reform, the imbalance of trade with the Soviet Union in which falling oil prices play a major role, and the difficulty of achieving the so-called stabilization program proposed by the government.

The suggested revision of the scale and scope of taxes and benefits is attached to the 1989 budget bill now before Parliament. Finance Minister Eraldi Liikanen claims that it will provide some tax relief, but for many taxpayers this will be offset by the lowering or removal of several deductibles.

It seems unlikely that Parliament will accept this proposal as it stands. The unions do not like it and want to see the final result before they agree to sign the stabilization program. The Bank of Finland has announced a small incentive in the form of a cut in interest rates by one-half percentage point in January 1989 if the stabilization program is signed by December.

Finnish-Soviet trade is bilateral, based on 5-year framework agreements which serve as the guide for detailed annual agreements.

The books are kept in clearing rubles and should show an approximate balance at the end of each 5-year period. The system has suffered lately from the changes in oil prices.

Dominating the scene is the year 1992 and the question of Finland's relations with the EC.

The bigger Finnish banks already have subsidiaries or some form of representation in a number of European financial centers. They are also looking further afield to the United States and Southeast Asia. Four foreign banks have established offices in Finland and three of the 52 corporations listed on the Helsinki stock exchange are foreign.

Finland Plans Tax Reform To Safeguard New Prosperity

By Lance Keyworth

Helsinki — The fundamental wisdom that Finland is a small open economy is a truism that now requires a rider: for the moment.

Ravaged by war with its giant Soviet neighbor across its eastern borders in 1939-1940, and later during the German campaign against the Soviet Union, Finland was faced with crippling demands for war reparations. It had to resettle within its shrunken territory approximately one-tenth of its population who had left the ceded areas.

It also had to build up its industrial structure. It needed growth, urgently. The first two decades of peace were therefore a period of controls and regulations. The Finns then had to get on with industrialization, specialization, expansion of the economy and marketing.

There was little outside help. The Finnish market, serving a population of nearly 5 million, was too small to accommodate such expansion, though the Nordic area could be regarded as an extension of the home market.

Inflation was a problem, capital resources were limited. Initially, the answer was a succession of devaluations of the markka.

But this was neither a stable nor a confidence-inspiring policy in the longer term.

By the early 1980s, the old controls and restrictions were being eased step by step. Inflation had been brought down to relatively moderate levels. Finland was a member of the European Free Trade Area, had acceded to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and had bilateral agreements with the Comecon countries and special agreements with the European Community.

The 1980s have been prosperous. The value of the markka has been stable, the trade balance satisfactory, Finnish firms and banks have been active worldwide.

But, with the easing of currency restrictions and with high interest rates, the foreign debt has grown.

The current account deficit will probably be

around 12 billion markkas (\$2.7 billion) this year and up to about 17 billion in 1989. Recently concluded wage settlements have not been as moderate as hoped and private consumption is too high.

The result is continuing inflationary pressure.

Complicating factors are tax reform, the imbalance of trade with the Soviet Union in which falling oil prices play a major role, and the difficulty of achieving the so-called stabilization program proposed by the government.

The suggested revision of the scale and scope of taxes and benefits is attached to the 1989 budget bill now before Parliament. Finance Minister Eraldi Liikanen claims that it will provide some tax relief, but for many taxpayers this will be offset by the lowering or removal of several deductibles.

It seems unlikely that Parliament will accept this proposal as it stands. The unions do not like it and want to see the final result before they agree to sign the stabilization program. The Bank of Finland has announced a small incentive in the form of a cut in interest rates by one-half percentage point in January 1989 if the stabilization program is signed by December.

Finnish-Soviet trade is bilateral, based on 5-year framework agreements which serve as the guide for detailed annual agreements.

The books are kept in clearing rubles and should show an approximate balance at the end of each 5-year period. The system has suffered lately from the changes in oil prices.

Dominating the scene is the year 1992 and the question of Finland's relations with the EC.

The bigger Finnish banks already have subsidiaries or some form of representation in a number of European financial centers. They are also looking further afield to the United States and Southeast Asia. Four foreign banks have established offices in Finland and three of the 52 corporations listed on the Helsinki stock exchange are foreign.

LANCE KEYWORTH reports on Scandinavia for TIME magazine.

Under the terms of the pact, rather than forming subsidiaries in each of the four countries, the partners — through their combined branch network — offer customers faster money transfers and more efficient cash management services.

The cross-ownership reflects the concern felt by Swedish and Finnish bankers that they risk being left out in the cold, as a tide of mergers, cross-shareholdings and outright acquisitions sweeps Europe.

"The move represents the germ of a partnership, which could later grow to embrace other Nordic banks, particularly those in Norway

Cross-ownership reflects concern about being left out in the cold.

and Denmark," one senior Swedish commercial banker said. By adding a Danish bank to the partnership, the Swedes and Finns would be gaining an important foothold in the EC as Denmark is the only Nordic member of the Community.

The idea in itself is not new. In 1984, three Nordic banks, Sweden's Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken, Norway's Bergen Bank and the Union Bank of Finland, formed a joint banking group — Scandinavian Banking Partners — in subsidiaries operating retail services in Sweden and Norway. Together, the three banks, which were joined by Denmark's Privatbanken in 1986, still form the largest banking group in Scandinavia.

In addition, to its association with Scandinavian Banking Partners, which resulted in the opening of outlets in Helsinki and Stockholm last year, Privatbanken last autumn established an office in Milan, the first by a Danish bank in Italy. A Privatbanken executive said that cooperation among the partners will be expanded in the coming years, with the data processing and information systems of the four participants harmonized.

MICHAEL METCALFE, a journalist based in Copenhagen, is a correspondent for Business International.

New Issue

This advertisement appears as a matter of record only.

August 25, 1988



Pohjola Insurance Company Ltd.

Helsinki, Finland

DM 85,000,000

6% Bearer Bonds of 1988/1993

- Stock Index No. 484 960 -

Issue Price: 100%

Dresdner Bank
Aktiengesellschaft

Union Bank of Finland Ltd

Deutsche Bank
Aktiengesellschaft

Kansallis Banking Group

Banque Paribas Capital Markets GmbH

Baring Brothers & Co.
Limited

CSFB-Effectenbank

Enskilda Securities
Skandinaviska Enskilda Limited

Postipankki

Salomon Brothers AG

Schweizerischer Bankverein
(Deutschland) AG

Vereins- und Westbank
Aktiengesellschaft

All of these securities having been sold, this announcement appears as a matter of record only.

New Issue

September, 1988

VALMET Oy
6,500,000 Shares

Issue Price FIM 120 per Share

Lead Manager and Financial Advisor

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

Kansallis-Osake-Pankki

Postipankki Oy

oil Brin
New Set

Bourse

Continued from page 11

new capital are following suit by going electronic. Systems are being installed so that you can transmit buy/sell orders from European markets to Stockholm, but because of foreign exchange regulations, which make it difficult for a Swedish bank to have a subsidiary in a foreign market, there cannot be straight trading in the near future. And there is nothing we, the banks, can do." Mr. Valmetapää added, however, that he and other market analysts believe that electronic exchange will be adopted in the medium term. "Two days ago, we were able to look at listing applications, such as whether to pay cash dividends or not. We have to wait for a long time to get a response. The banks are starting to do this, already. The implementation is the elimination of physical stock certificates from Sweden's central securities depository in favor of an electronic system.

Mr. Valmetapää believes that the first step, already taken, is the electronic system for trading needs with certain customers, namely with certain customers, among whom we no longer have to set up separate accounts for physical securities. Settlement will also be reduced to just a few days from the present six, although the actual transaction could take a long time in certain cases. Two days ago, we were able to look at listing applications, such as whether to pay cash dividends or not. We have to wait for a long time to get a response. The banks are starting to do this, already. The implementation is the elimination of physical stock certificates from Sweden's central securities depository in favor of an electronic system.

Modern computer networks will allow us to trade on electronic markets without involving any of the traditional brokers. You would trade directly with the exchanges. You would be able to trade Nordic equities as available on an electronic exchange in Helsinki. Mr. Valmetapää added, "This is the notion of a common market, rather than a common currency."

JIRI KAZDA is a financial reporter for the International Herald Tribune.

reform
prosperity

Oil Brings Norway New Set of Problems

By Hilary Barnes

NORWAY has made considerable progress this year in tackling its two most serious economic imbalances, an enormous deficit on its current external account and inflation.

The price of the improvements has been rising unemployment and two years of falling domestic demand. Most economists expect a third year of decline in 1989.

The outlook is further clouded by the decline in oil prices, which are now well below the level for which the government had budgeted for this year and next.

Consumers, the financial services industry, domestic-share companies and two of the three Norwegian offshore oil companies are groaning under the pressures.

In the financial sector, high interest rates, falling demand for credit and heavy customer losses hit the banks, finance and insurance companies hard in 1987 and little improvement is in sight this year.

The country's two biggest banks, Den norske Creditbank and Christiania Bank, both made substantial losses in 1987. DnC may report a further loss this year, while Christiania hopes for a modest profit, but both expect heavy customer losses, spread over a wide range of risks and not mainly related to the oil sector again.

Staff reductions in both the bank and insurance companies are being made to cut costs. But, in addition to cutting costs, the companies also need new equity capital. However, high interest rates and a sagging share market make the outlook unfavorable, which, some analysts fear, will perpetuate the banking crisis.

A tight fiscal policy and an even tighter monetary policy, with short-term interest rates at over 13 percent throughout this year, sent private consumption tumbling by 2.2 percent in 1987 and by about 3 percent this year. A further, but smaller decline is probable in 1989 as well.

Business investment also fell both last year and this year, and the most recent Bureau of Statistics investment trends survey points to a decline in manufacturing investment in 1989 of 15 to 20 percent in current prices.

A successful incomes policy, imposed last spring, has brought the increase in wage

costs in manufacturing down to about 7 percent, while consumer prices increased by 6.8 percent over the year to July. Last year, after an ill-timed 24-hour cut in the working week to 37.5 hours, wage costs increased by 16 percent.

The drop in domestic demand has coincided with strong export growth by the traditional industries, including fisheries, shipping and the basic metals industry. The trade deficit for the year was thus reduced from 6.8 billion kroner (\$385 million) for the first half of 1987 to 0.9 billion kroner this year, excluding ships, although oil and gas exports fell by 11 percent to 24.5 billion kroner.

While some of the traditional export industries are doing well, most other sectors are suffering from the recession and falling oil prices.

Imports, which fell in volume terms by almost 7 percent in 1987, may fall slightly again this year and are expected to remain flat through 1989.

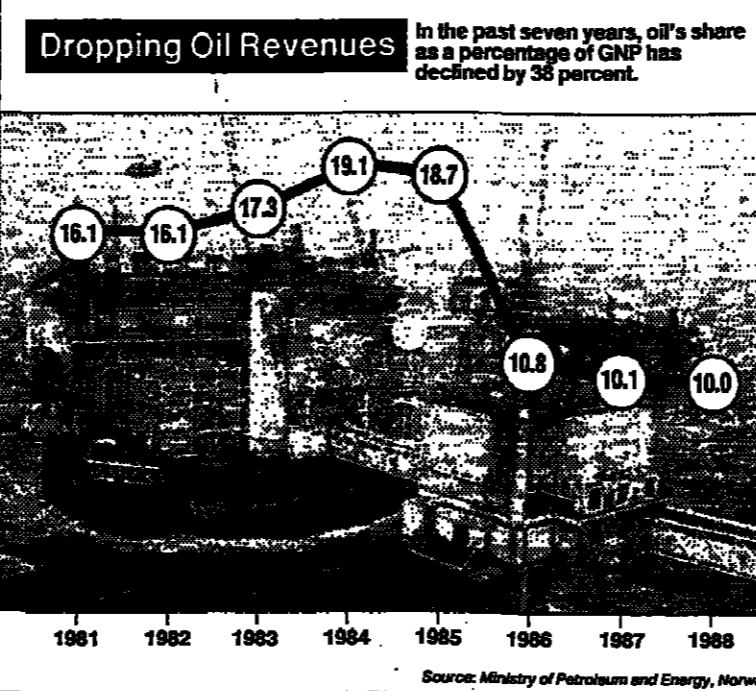
As exports of traditional goods, excluding oil, gas, ships and oil platforms, are buoyant, both the trade balance and the current account are looking healthier, with one proviso.

The establishment of a Norwegian International Ships Register in 1987 has meant a big bill for the import of ships, as Norwegian ships flying foreign flags have repatriated to the new register. Including ships, the current account deficit for the first five months increased from 6.1 billion kroner to 10.3 billion kroner; excluding ships, the deficit fell from 11.7 billion kroner to 8.1 billion kroner.

In the metals industry, Norway's two big producers, Elkem and Norsk Hydro, have cashed in on the boom in world metal prices.

Norsk Hydro, half state-owned, and heavily engaged in North Sea oil and gas as well as petrochemicals, light metals and fertilizers, of which it is Europe's biggest producer, made a rousing comeback this year after dipping into loss in 1986.

Not even a 226 million kroner loss by a Swiss aluminum trading subsidiary, Hydro Trading, could dent the first-half results. Earnings before allocations and tax were up from 2.80 billion kroner to 3.62 billion kroner on sales up from 27.46 billion to 29.98 billion. Earnings from oil and gas fell from 1.1 billion kroner to 700 million, but the



light metals division increased profits from \$630 million to \$900 million and the agro division from \$30 million to \$90 million.

Elkem, a leading producer of both aluminum and ferro-alloys, recovered from a first half operating loss in 1987 of 59 million kroner to a profit of 215 million.

After insisting since the early 1970s that the state must have a minimum 50 percent stake in all oil and gas fields — and in most of the big fields the state is much higher — the politicians are now so nervous about the risks they are running with taxpayers' money that consideration is being given to selling some of the state's oil and gas assets.

The state's own giant oil company, Statoil, saw its first half pretax profits fall from 4.3 billion kroner last year to 2.8 billion and it has asked the government to shore it up with a 3-million-kroner equity injection.

Norsk Hydro remains in good shape, but the third Norwegian oil company, Saga Petroleum, has just had to postpone, for the second time this year, the issue of a convertible bond. The group hoped to price the bonds at 200 kroner per share, but this is not feasible with a current share price of about 65 kroner.

Saga saw first half profits fall to 62 million kroner from last year's 253 million. Bank analysts in Norway predict a series of losses for the company at present oil prices, and the Saga's future as an independent company is in question.

HILARY BARNES, a financial journalist based in Copenhagen, publishes a monthly report on business and economic developments in Scandinavia.

Deficit, Foreign Debt Plague Denmark

By Christopher Follett

COPENHAGEN — The member of the European Community with the highest material standard of living and, paradoxically, the greatest foreign debt, Denmark is in the doldrums, facing another winter of economic decline and political instability.

A recent report by the 24-nation Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development spelled out Denmark's dilemma clearly: The country must curb both government and consumer spending, apparently to cut its growing current account deficit and foreign debt.

The level of Denmark's foreign debt, at 40 percent of gross domestic product or around \$38 billion — \$8,000 for every one of the country's 5 million population — has reached a magnitude which makes the reduction of the persistent external deficit the government's foremost concern, the OECD says, echoing the doomsday prophecies of most analysts.

Denmark has suffered a shortfall in its balance of payments for 25 consecutive years now and

industries. But many experts feel the package is not far-reaching enough.

DANISH industry, predominantly made up of small concerns, exports 60 percent of its production and 70 percent of all exports are industrial, followed by food, beverages, chemical products, furniture and textiles.

The central problem facing Danish industry, far overshadowing the need for restructuring, is our export competitiveness," Mr. Krohn said. "This problem is so acute that it can only improve in the coming decade. Essentially we must be competitive to survive, it is insufficient just to be small and efficient.

"Danes do not basically believe in state intervention and subsidies for dying industries. We believe in the right to go bankrupt as the only way to ensure a healthy industry," he said.

Turning to agriculture, the situation looks similarly bleak.

All in all, 25 percent of Denmark's exports derive from the agricultural sector, yet the government was forced this summer to

take emergency measures to help farmers hit by debt, falling prices and stagnant exports.

The package provides more than \$150 million of state aid next year to ease the \$3.5 billion of debt owed by more than 16,000 of Denmark's 90,000 farmers.

Apart from failing exports and prices and the sector's grave interest debt problems, the two major challenges facing Danish agriculture are reforms to EC's Common Agricultural Policy, with its curbs on farm production, and ambitious government anti-pollution programs designed to stop the seepage of agricultural fertilizers into Denmark's inshore and offshore waters.

"I nonetheless see the current crisis in Danish agriculture as a temporary phenomenon," said Hans Kjeldsen, president of Denmark's Agricultural Council, the umbrella body grouping all the country's farming organizations.

"In the next century, I foresee European farm production trebling from its present level as Third World nations become more industrialized and demand for food products from fertile, efficient

farming countries like Denmark increases."

No fewer than four tough economic packages within the past three years have failed to right Denmark's economic plight, or lessen the average Dane's high income tax burden — the highest in the EC.

Most Danes pay between 50 and 68 percent of their income in direct taxes; partly to support the country's streamlined cradle-to-grave welfare system.

The writing could be on the wall for the hitherto sacrosanct welfare system as Denmark's state budget for 1989, published recently and due for parliamentary approval this autumn, calls for \$1.5 billion of fresh public expenditure cuts.

With taxation such a volatile issue, the creation of the single European market in 1992 will pose agonizing problems of assimilation for Denmark.

CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT, a Copenhagen-based journalist, works for The Times of London and Danish State Radio's English-language news service.

Bourse

Continued from page 11

Nordic capitals are following suit in developing electronic systems.

"Theoretically you can transmit trading orders from European investors to Stockholm, but because of foreign exchange regulations, you have to go through a Swedish broker, so you cannot have straight computer trading in the near future, and there is nothing we, the exchange, can do," Mr. Vindevag said. He added, however, that he, like many other market analysts, believes Sweden's foreign exchange restrictions on portfolio investment will be lifted.

Another important step, already under implementation, is the elimination of physical stock certificate delivery from Sweden's central Securities Registry, in favor of an electronic system.

Mr. Vindevag believes that together with the start up of the Stockholm Automated Exchange computer system for trading next year, costs will be reduced for dealing with foreign customers, since they will no longer have to set up deposit accounts for physical certificates. Settlement will also be reduced to two days from the present five, although the actual transactions could be done in real time.

"Two days is something to allow the buyer to look at financing options, such as whether to pay cash, sell other securities, or borrow to make payment," he says.

"Modern computer networks will allow you to create an electronic market without killing any of the national submarkets. You would still trade Swedish equities in Stockholm, but these would be easily available in Copenhagen and Helsinki," Mr. Vindevag adds. "This is the notion of a common market, rather than a common exchange."

JURIS KAZA, a journalist based in Stockholm, is regular contributor to the International Herald Tribune.

Application will be made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for up to 6,000,000 new free A-shares of FIM 20 each in Amer Group Ltd to be admitted to the Official list.



AMER GROUP LTD

**Share Issue 26th September to 28th October 1988
Notice to holders of free A-shares**

Terms of Issue

At the Annual General Meeting of the Company held on 22nd June 1988, the shareholders resolved to authorize the Directors, for a period of one year from that date, to increase the Company's share capital by a maximum of FIM 80 million.

Pursuant to this authority, the Directors at a Board Meeting held on 20th September 1988, resolved to increase the share capital of the Company by issuing new shares, each with a nominal value of FIM 20, on the following basis:

(i) by rights issue to holders of K-shares, A-shares and holders of warrants entitling to the 57% conversion of the K-shares into FIM 20 shares from 1st January 1989 increasing the share capital by up to FIM 6,194,560 by the issue of up to 3,092,328 new A-shares at FIM 50 per share. However, if less than 2,200,000 new A-shares are subscribed, the rights issue shall lapse;

(ii) by an issue to employees increasing the share capital by 18th December 1988 FIM 3,000,000 by the issue of 150,000 new A-shares at FIM 100 per share.

Fractions of New Shares

Coupons representing fractions of new shares should either be sold or increased to a multiple of five coupons by the purchase of additional coupons during the subscription period otherwise coupons representing fractions of new shares will be disregarded by the Company and entitlements to new shares will be rounded down to the nearest new share.

Rights Issue

The entitlement to participate in the rights issue is evidenced by Coupon No 10 issued to each free A-share certificate. Each shareholder should arrange for Coupon 10 to be presented at any branch of Kansallis-Osake-Pankki in Finland between 26th September and 28th October 1988. Upon presentation, Coupon 10 will be converted into a rights issue certificate entitling the shareholder to subscribe for the rights issue.

Dealing on The Stock Exchange are expected to be as follows:

(i) Coupon No 10 (nil paid) — commence 26th September 1988 and close 21st October 1988

(ii) rights issue certificate (fully paid) — commence 16th December 1988 and close immediately prior to the next Annual General Meeting of the Company (see above).

Subscription Restrictions

The Company's new free A-shares have not been, and will not be, registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933. The new free A-shares may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in the United States or to U.S. persons.

The new free A-shares may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in Canada or to Canadian persons.

Under Finnish law and the Company's Articles of Association, the Company's restricted A-shares may be held only by Finnish persons.

Reference should be made to the Exel Card and brochure referred to below for additional information concerning subscription and related restrictions.

Definitive Documents of Title

It is expected that the new free A-shares issued pursuant to the rights issue will be registered with the Finnish Patent and Registration Office before the end of February 1989 and that new definitive share certificates will be issued in respect of the issue to employees and in exchange for the rights issue interim certificates at a time to be announced by the Directors, which is expected to be at the end of March 1989.

Exel Card

Particulars relating to the Company will be available in the Exel statistical services. A copy of the Exel Card, which comprises listing particulars required by the Financial Services Act 1986, will be delivered for registration on 22nd September 1988 to the Registrar of Companies and together with the Share Issue 20th September to 28th October 1988, prepared by the Company will be made free to shareholders and to Lihavik, Pieni Tulli, Helsinki, Finland.

Any shareholder who is in doubt as to the action to be taken should contact his professional adviser or the Company at Makelaukkatu 91, PO Box 130, SF-00001, Helsinki, Finland for the attention of Seppo Salminen, Group Vice-President, Chief Financial Officer. Telephone: +358-1-57711. 12th September 1988, Helsinki, Finland.

Swedish Credit Markets Face Total Restructuring

By Mats Hallvarsson

STOCKHOLM — Swedish credit markets are facing their biggest revolution in modern times. This summer, the Credit Market Committee presented 1,700 pages of a completely new legal framework for the country's financial markets. It will radically alter the structure of the banking industry.

The Swedish financial market has long been one of the most restricted among the Western industrialized states. But the Social Democrats returned to power in 1982, a deliberate liberalization has begun. During the last three or four years the change has gathered such a pace that the legal framework has become outdated and fresh patchwork legislation has quickly been surpassed by market developments.

Even some of the new rules generated by the oil sector remain a key problem.

Offshore oil and gas sector investments this year will total about \$3 billion, or more than twice manufacturing industry's investments. The development of new fields in the next few years ensure that investment will remain at least at this level or higher in the early 1990s.

Measures to curb oil sector investment, keeping it down to around 25 billion a year, were one of the main recommendations in a report published in August by a government-appointed committee of economists, who said that inflationary pressures threatened to lead Norway to a series of devaluations in the 1990s unless radical adjustments were made to economic policy.

Subsidies to industry and agriculture must be slashed, import restrictions lifted, public spending cut and unemployment allowed to rise, the economists said.

HILARY BARNES, a financial journalist based in Copenhagen, publishes a monthly report on business and economic developments in Scandinavia.

handful of Swedish banks are tightly controlled by majority owners, like the fourth biggest banking group, Gotagruppen. Several owners will be forced to sell their holdings.

The proposal follows closely the committee's mandate from the government. The committee said that it is the best compromise between the risk of owner concentration and the need for strong owners to replace bad managements.

Related to the ownership questions are the new rules for so-called financial groups. This is another hotly disputed issue since the creation of the Gotagruppen two years ago. The group took the</p

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1988

INTERNATIONAL STOCK MARKETS

Tumbling Gold Prices Put Mining Companies to Test

By PAUL SILLITOE

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Good news on the outlook for inflation and exchange rates is usually bad news for the price of gold, the traditional inflation hedge. And bad news for gold is bad news for gold mining stocks, many of which are rated to reflect a bull market in gold that some analysts believe has come to a resounding end.

Gold bullion tumbled below \$390 an ounce in London on Monday, trading as low as \$387.625, its lowest price since closing at \$395.20. Analysts' views vary, but many think gold could be headed for \$360 or below before it meets sufficient support to generate a sustainable rebound.

Others said that gold has entered a protracted bear market.

A stream of economic indicators over the past two months appears to have put to rest fears among investors — if not economists — of a resurgence of inflation in the United States and other major industrialized countries.

The dollar, whose fluctuations generally lead to a contrary movement in the gold price, would seem to be undermined at its present relatively high levels by the weekend agreement of the Group of Seven industrialized nations to preserve stable exchange rates — at least until a new U.S. administration is in charge and policies on the huge American external deficits are clearer.

All of which, even ignoring the view that gold was overdue for a decline, bodes ill for gold miners.

The older established mining companies in South Africa, the world's biggest gold producer, and North America, are for the most part locked in to expensive deep-underground mining and extraction methods. South African mines have an average production cost of about \$240 an ounce, noted Julian Barling of James Capel & Co., the London brokerage.

MANY ARE much higher. Some South African miners' costs are well above \$300 an ounce. Homestake Mining Co., based in San Francisco, has an average production cost of \$304 an ounce, among the highest in the industry. Stephanie K. Kushner, manager of financial services for Homestake, told The New York Times, "If the price of gold goes down much further, we will have to look at all of our operations on a case-by-case basis."

"Every time the price of gold goes down by one dollar, it affects our pretax profits by \$800,000 on an annualized basis," she said. "The impact is felt directly on our bottom line."

William Pass, manager of finance for U.S. Gold Corp., said "the price movement over the week has definitely been a concern." He noted that "well-run companies can make money in the \$400-an-ounce range, but if it gets much lower, it's going to shake out the high-cost producers."

By contrast, new mining operations in North America and Australia, many of which extract ore from large open-cast mines and process it with modern chemical-based methods, can keep costs down to around \$200 an ounce, said analysts in London.

Graham Birch, analyst at Kleinwort Giesecke Securities, is "very cautious" on gold stocks, pointing out that, as a rule of thumb, a 1 percent movement in the bullion price translates into a 3 percent movement in miners' operating profits.

Other factors aside, this implies that a fall in the gold price to around \$360 an ounce could see a decline in gold stocks of as much as 30 percent.

The cost factor is critical. Kloof Gold, a low-cost South African producer, was quoted Monday at \$7,8125 on the London Stock Exchange.

See STOCKS, Page 17

If the price of gold goes down much further, we will have to look at all of our operations.'

EC Signs Pact With Hungary

Ambitious Accord To Widen Trade

Agence France-Presse

BRUSSELS — The European Community and Hungary signed a 10-year agreement on Monday that established the most ambitious trade accord ever between the community and an Eastern European country.

The trade and cooperation agreement calls for the lifting of quota restrictions against Hungarian exports to the European Community in three stages by 1995. In exchange, Hungary has pledged to broaden access to its market for EC products and curb its widespread use of barriers.

The deal was made possible by the formal recognition agreement in July between the EC and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, or Comecon, which is the Warsaw Pact trade organization.

Trade Minister Jozsef Marai of Hungary, who is also deputy prime minister, said the accord would help Hungary's efforts to make "radical adjustments" to its economic structure and carry out a reform of its political institutions.

Since the two trade organizations recognized each other, after 15 years of sporadic negotiations, most of the Comecon countries have requested formal diplomatic links with the European Community and initiated talks for trade agreements.

According to EC sources, an accord with Czechoslovakia is nearly ready, and talks have been held with Bulgaria and Poland.

Under the new pact, Hungary would enjoy the same customs status as most members of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The European Community's quota restrictions, currently covering about 2,000 items, would be lifted in three phases: within one year for the least sensitive items, by 1992 for most of the remainder, and by 1996 for the most sensitive goods, which include textiles, polymers, glass and color televisions.

A spokesman for the European Commission, the EC executive branch, said the pact was the most ambitious envisaged for the Eastern nations because Hungary's economic structure reflects that of Western Europe more closely than a case-by-case basis.

The deal is expected to be finalized in October.

See GANNETT, Page 17

USA Today Growth Curve Flattens

Gannett's Flagship Unlikely to Make Profit This Year

By Paul Farhi

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — If it were writing the story of its own recent fortunes, USA Today might say of itself: "We're losing our luster."

USA Today, still colorful and chirpy but no longer the trend-setter, has found that its circulation growth has slowed, falling far short of the initial expectations of its parent company, Gannett Co. Advertising also has stalled, dropping 4 percent through the first half of 1988, reflecting an industrywide slowdown. A profit seems out of the question this year.

These setbacks come at an important juncture for the publication that calls itself "The Nation's Newspaper" and for the company, which invested hundreds of millions of dollars to create the publication. As USA Today emerges from infancy, it no longer can count on the fast growth experienced during the introduction into new markets that began Sept. 15, 1982.

Instead, with the newspaper now available across the United States, Gannett must find a way to sustain the excitement USA Today created and make it a regular habit with its readers, who are legion but not always loyal.

This may prove difficult because Gannett, headquartered in Rosslyn, Virginia, seems to be making less of a splash these days. Gannett, the largest American newspaper chain, with \$3.1 billion in revenue in 1987, has produced profits with machine-like regularity, recording higher earnings in each of 83 quarters since going public in 1967.

Gannett has maintained this remarkable streak even while absorbing the losses of its nationwide publications and spending \$1.2 billion to buy publications in Detroit, Louisville, Kentucky, and Des Moines, Iowa, during 1985 and 1986.

But even with these investments, the company has been pressed to keep up with the growth of the rest of the newspaper industry. Without the benefit of tax-law changes and a nonrecurring gain from the sale of a block of stock it owned in Cowles Media, Gannett's 21 percent increase in first-half net income would have been cut to pedestal levels. The company's stock has been edging upward.

See GANNETT, Page 17



Allen H. Nentlath, 64, Gannett's chairman, is expected to retire on April 1 and to be replaced by John J. Curley, 49.

Poor Television Reception

By Peter J. Boyer

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In the months before its first broadcast, "USA Today: the Television Show" drew widespread attention and high expectations.

But after two weeks on the air, the flashy show, which has cost \$40 million, is subject to scorn and predictions of imminent demise.

Ratings are so disastrous that an overhaul already is under way, while some stations are looking around for replacement shows.

"It needs to be much more compelling than it is," said Steven Antoniotti, vice president of broadcasting at WJBK-TV in Detroit, which broadcasts the show. "I have the sense of, if I miss it, so what?"

"It started out with mediocre numbers and went downhill," he said.

The half-hour program is a fast-paced assemblage of features, drawn from the spirit of the newspaper but without the news.

At GTG Entertainment, the TV company formed by the producer Grant Tinker and Gannett Co., the mood is more sanguine. Mr. Tinker said the show is getting better every day.

"We've slowed the pace down," Mr. Tinker said. "We're doing fewer pieces, longer and more substantial pieces, aimed at leaving the viewer with a little something sticking to his ribs — not that rat-a-tat we had to begin with."

U.S.-Soviet Ventures: Sizzle, but Little High Tech

By Milt Freudenheim

New York Times Service

SHOPPING AVENUE in Moscow. Another shop will be located in the Moscow Expo Center, which serves foreign companies.

The second is for shops in hotels that will sell souvenirs, computer and audio-visual equipment, advertising and printing services.

The number of U.S.-Soviet ventures may double soon, to eight or 10.

"I know of four or five U.S. companies have signed venture agreements, according to Amtrac, the Soviet trading company based in New York. Among them are fast-food restaurants that will add little to Soviet industrial might."

"They want to bring in Western equipment and machinery to make some of the products they have been importing," said Val Zabojnik, an expert on Soviet trade at the U.S. Commerce Department. "They got mainly small deals. The publicity is way ahead of the deals."

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shopping avenue in Moscow. Another shop will be located in the Moscow Expo Center, which serves foreign companies.

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U.S. Orders For Machine Tools Rose

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Orders for U.S. machine tools rose 33.2 percent in August, to \$326 million, bolstered by increases in exports, according to a report released Monday by the industry's trade association.

The figure was more than double the level in August of last year but was still well below the record amount of orders for one month, \$565.1 million, in October 1979.

For the year, total orders reached \$2.4 billion, 85.5 percent higher than in the comparable period of 1987.

The report was prepared by the Association for Manufacturing Technology, formerly the National Machine Tool Builders' Association.

Machine tools are devices that cut or shape metal parts. Economists consider their sales an important indicator of capital spending by manufacturers of other items.

Analysts and industry officials said the increase was partly a result of a seasonal decline in July. They added, however, that changes in the value of the dollar appeared to have contributed to the growth.

"It's a stronger number than was expected," said Eli S. Lustgarten, a machinery analyst for PaineWebber Inc.

In August, foreign orders climbed 15.6 percent, to \$86.7 million, compared with \$33.6 million in July.

Source: PaineWebber Inc.; U.S. Commerce Dept.; International Trade Commission.

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Dollar Braked By Banks After G-7 Statement

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
NEW YORK — The dollar ended mostly firmer Monday, but well below its highs of the day after central banks moved swiftly to break a rise in the currency.

The foreign exchange market had shown little reaction to a communiqué issued Saturday by the Group of Seven industrialized nations, in which they reaffirmed their commitment to stabilize exchange rates but omitted a specific mention of the dollar.

But a remark by a senior West German monetary official on Monday encouraged the market to test the dollar's ability to rise.

The dollar rose to 1.8905 Deutsche marks, up slightly from 1.8748 on Friday, and it climbed to 1.8475 yen from 1.8435.

The U.S. currency reached 1.5905 Swiss francs, up from 1.5830, and at 6,4080 French francs, compared with 6,3875.

The British pound edged up from \$1.6715 to \$1.6733 on \$1.6710.

The initial strength of the dollar was subdued by nervousness in advance of British trade and current account data for August, due to be published on Tuesday. Both are expected to show a large deficit.

Because the central banks inter-

See DOLLAR, Page 19

Recession In U.S. Seen By 1990

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. economy expected to slow in 1989 but probably will not tip into a recession before 1990, corporate economists predicted in a poll released Monday.

The latest quarterly survey of the National Association of Business Economics found that 60 economic advisers to large U.S. businesses were substantially more optimistic about 1988 and more sanguine about next year than three months ago.

In May, 57 percent of the economists said the current expansion, now nearly six years old, would end in 1989. However, in a survey taken in late August and early September, that view was held by a smaller, though still substantial, 47 percent of the panel.

Forty-two percent of the economists said they believed the next recession would come in 1990, and 11 percent predicted a downturn in 1991 or later.

"For business economists, a group often accused of an inability to reach agreement on anything,

See ECONOMY, Page 19

INTERNATIONAL CURRENCY REVIEW

The financial world's only independent currency magazine.

**Monday's
AMEX
Closing**

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere.

72 Month High	72 Month Low	Stack	Div.	Yld.	PE	St. 100s	High	Low	Closes Qual.
A									
134%	64%	ABBI			11	2	1018	100%	1018
10	24%	ABBM G				57	444	415	424
9	44%	AIIFS				24	244	226	252
15%	STW	AL Lab s	.12	.9	17	243	125	120	126
4	20%	AGI	.05c	1.7	26	38	295	295	374
54%	11%	AGC g				565	1198	1012	1162
20%	57%	AT&T E				105	114	114	116
23%	7%	ATTCr wt				23	3	246	246
124%	2	ATL				1	1	1	1
44%	30%	ATT Fd	2.15e	5.5		86	394	356	389
121%	4%	AtmBank				10	94	94	96
5%	51%	AcmeU	.16	2.4	34	2	426	426	514
65%	3	Action				20	57	57	514
25%	11%	Acton				18	19	133	134
2	16%	Acton wt				15	2	15	16
23%	114%	AdmRrs				5	2	15	154
14%	6%	AdmRelE				71	71	71	792
214%	81%	AirExp				10	74	64	76
17%	10	Aircar	2.40	20.4	14	22	114	114	16
77%	2%	AIRFin c				28	344	344	344
8%	3%	AllfinC n				1	37	37	37
91%	44%	Allstor	1.00	21.6		154	24	24	24
9	3	AlpinGrp				48	516	516	516
17%	4%	AlpinGr				29	446	446	446
7%	1%	Alplex				100	414	414	414
44%	36%	Alpro pf	3.75	9.8	45	179	219	219	219
41%	16%	AlproBrt				1	4	4	4
28%	91%	Amchil 5	.08	1.9	11	3401	1924	1828	1876
29%	7%	AMCI	.15	5.8	7	22	20	17	17
21%	12%	AMCIKT	1.00	5.8	88	3	174	174	174
43%	7%	AMCom				5	312	312	312
24%	20%	AMCom pf	3.75	17.1		5	219	219	219
41%	7%	AMCor				86	216	216	216
4%	1%	AMExpl wt				80	76	76	76
27%	1%	AMExF B				100	89	89	89
12%	4%	AFRIC B				7	24	15	15
20%	14%	AmI Pro	1.40	9.3		24	15	14	14
25%	12%	Alstrom	3.20e	23	11	17	1116	1116	1116
20%	10%	AMT				16	17	15	15
104%	10%	AMTBA	.52	3.2	9	84	116	116	116
4%	6%	AMTBD				2	7	7	7
17%	10%	APRecs	.17	1.0	37	1	164	164	164
10%	7%	ApReshr	.52	5.3		7	10	10	10
5%	32%	ASClE				230	454	454	454
12%	34%	AmShrd				11	88	88	88
47%	15%	AMSwM	1.81e	19.1	15	1024	342	342	342
23%	16%	AMTEC				71	21	4	376
23%	16%	AMTEC B				574	21	21	22
23%	16%	AMTEC C				1.15	52	43	43
134%	14%	AMTEC SC				52	4	21	22

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INTERNATIONAL FUNDS (Quotations Supplied by Funds Listed)

The marginal symbols indicate frequency of quotations supplied: (d) - daily; (w) - weekly; (b) - bi-monthly; (r) - regularly; (12) - twice weekly; (m) - monthly.

L GROUP DIT INVESTMENT FFM (d) G.T. Investment Fund — S 5.99* (w) Sogelux Funds S — FF

Floating-Rate Notes

Sept. 26	Issuer/Mat.	Coupon Maturity	Next Bid	Asked	Coupon Next	Bid	Asked
Dollars							
Alaska Finance July01	8.528	12-01 99.71 99.87			9	28-10 100.90 100.10	
Alberto '93	7.925	12-01 100.00 100.30			9	28-04 100.07 100.10	
American Express '97	8.000	30-09 98.00 98.25			7/8	28-04 100.85 100.15	
Amex Sub D(Mar'99)	8.000	88-10 97.10 97.35			7/8	30-11 100.20 100.10	
Arco '90	7.9	12-12 97.00 97.99			7/8	27-12 98.15 98.60	
Arco '91	7.9	98-12 97.75 98.00			7/8	27-11 98.15 98.60	
Eco Di Napoli '97	8/4	12-12 97.80 98.05			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Eco Di Napoli '97	7.925	12-12 97.80 98.05			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Eco Di Roma Jun'01	7.925	08-11 99.45 99.52			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Eco Di Roma '92	7.925	12-12 97.80 98.05			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Eco Finanziaria '93	8.025	30-09 98.00 98.25			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
SA Novarese '95	7/4	24-02 99.15 99.30			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
SA Scottish Corp '95	7/4	24-02 99.15 99.30			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Bankers Trust '90	8	14-11 97.00 98.00			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
BBG Capital '96	8/4	12-12 97.65 97.90			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
BBG Capital '96	8/4	14-11 99.00 99.55			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
BBG Int'l '93 (Mitshi)	8/4	21-10 99.75 99.75			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Spri '91 '01	7.800	20-12 96.50 96.75			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
SA Indescom '97 New	8	11-11 98.00 98.70			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
SAF '97 (Cosa)	8/4	12-11 99.27 99.47			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Saf '98 '99	7.8	10-11 99.84 99.94			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
SA Indescom '97 9/1/32	7/8	48 42 99.12			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Saf '98	7/8	48 42 99.12			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Spri 7 (Cap)	7/4	21-10 98.00 98.00			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Spri 88/91	7/4	12-12 99.34 99.64			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Spri Persi	7/4	08-08 99.00 99.00			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Spri '91	7/4	08-08 100.85 100.85			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Spri 85 (Mitshi)	8/4	10-11 99.50 99.60			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
SA Panbras Pers 2	8/4	12-12 98.00 98.25			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Barclays '94 '95 '96 '97	8/4	21-11 98.00 98.25			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Barclays '94 '95 '96 '97	8/4	21-12 98.00 98.25			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Barclays Corp Old	8/4	21-12 98.00 98.25			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Barclays OVS 0/4 N.A.	8/4	04-09 97.74 5			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Barclays Jun'94	8/4	22-01 99.92 100.02			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Barclays Jun'95	8/4	20-01 99.75 100.25			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Belgium '93 (A)	8/4	11-01 100.57/100.67			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Belgium '97	9	21-02 100.44/100.54			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Belgium Dec'94	7/4	12-12 99.90 100.00			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Cbc '2003	7/4	17-02 70.00 72.00			7/8	28-01 99.93 100.05	
Carrefour Srl '94	7/4	30-11 97.25 98.05			7/8	28-01 100.15/100.25	
Carrefour Srl Sec'96	7/4	04-03 97.43 99.53			7/8	28-11 99.75 100.00	
Central '93/94	7/45	11-11 99.22 99.32			7/8	28-01 100.15/100.25	
Central Int'l 08/01/04	8/4	20-11 99.02 99.12			7/8	28-11 100.15/100.25	
Central 92/95	7/15	10-10 99.37 99.37			7/8	28-11 100.15/100.25	
Centrus '96	8/4	08-12 99.24 99.34			7/8	28-11 100.15/100.25	
Centrus Sec'97 8/28	7/4	05 25 99.35			7/8	28-11 100.15/100.25	
Chase '91	7/4	28-02 71.00 72.00			7/8	28-11 100.15/100.25	
Chase Man Corp '04	7/4	14-11 97.55 98			7/8	28-11 100.15/100.25	
Chase Man '97	7/4	35-01 97.00 97.50			7/8	28-11 100.15/100.25	
Chemical '99	8/4	30-09 96.50 97.05			7/8	28-11 100.15/100.25	
Chemical Pepp'97	8/4	21-11 96.40 96.65			7/8	28-11 100.15/100.25	
Chemical Oct'97	8/4	11-10 96.00 96.30			7/8	28-11 100.15/100.25	
7/4/98/SIA 03/04	7/4	09-01 97.00 97.00			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Citibank '95	8/075	20-09 95.55 96.28			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Citibank Sec'95	8/4	12-12 97.45 97.90			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Citibank Pers '96	8/4	17-10 98.00 98.25			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Citibank '96	8/4	04-09 97.50 97.75			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Citibank Mar'98	8/4	30-11 97.10 98.35			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Citibank Pers '97	8/4	10-09 98.00 98.40			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Cit Federal Aug'93	8/4	30-11 97.00 97.25			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Citizens St. H. Mar'94	8/4	09-03 97.00 97.30			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Cit Federal Oct'93	8/4	11-10 97.00 97.25			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
CityNet May '91	8/4	10-09 95.50 96.15			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Colonial S.H. '96	7/4	11-11 97.25 97.50			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '94	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '95	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '96	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '97	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '98	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '99	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '00	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '01	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '02	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '03	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '04	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '05	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '06	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '07	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '08	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '09	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '10	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '11	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '12	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '13	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '14	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '15	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '16	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '17	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '18	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '19	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '20	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '21	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '22	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '23	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '24	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '25	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '26	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '27	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '28	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '29	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '30	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '31	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '32	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '33	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '34	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '35	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '36	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '37	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '38	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '39	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '40	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '41	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '42	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '43	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '44	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '45	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '46	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '47	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '48	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '49	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '50	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '51	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '52	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '53	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '54	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '55	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '56	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '57	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '58	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '59	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '60	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '61	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '62	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '63	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '64	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '65	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33			7/8	28-12 98.00 98.00	
Comcast '66	8/4	20-12 99.00 99.33					

(Continued on next page)

CURRENCY MARKETS

DOLLAR: Central Banks Step In

(Continued from first finance page)
When the dollar was trading at about 1,880 DM, one London dealer said that the Group of Seven officials may have set a target range for the dollar between 1,820 DM and 1,880.

The dealer added that the Group of Seven countries would allow the dollar to swing within that relatively wide range until the U.S. presidential election Nov. 8.

Another dealer said the Group of Seven countries were seen as having reached an agreement to leave the dollar at its current levels because they were concerned about it falling before the U.S. election.

The Group of Seven communiqué said that the ministers and central bank chiefs from the leading industrialized nations "reaffirmed their commitment to pursue policies that will maintain exchange rate stability and to continue to cooperate closely on exchange markets."

London Dollar Rates

Closes Net F.R.

Deutsche mark 1,820 1,810

French franc 1,640 1,675

Japanese yen 134.65 134.45

Swiss franc 1.5925 1.5940

French franc 4.6885 4.6875

Sources: Reuters

OPEC Seeks Fresh Talks On Iraq-Iran Quota Row

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MADRID — The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries decided Monday to hold urgent talks of a cartel committee that includes Iraq and Iran, which may be a forum to help end their dispute over oil output quotas.

After two days of emergency talks in Madrid mulling the excess output which has hit prices, the five-member ministerial pricing committee of OPEC said it would hold further talks soon meeting jointly with another panel, the long-term strategy committee.

That group includes the Gulf war combatants.

The committee ended a two-day emergency session Monday by calling for prompt action to reverse the sharp decline in world oil prices but stopped short of requesting a special meeting of the full 13-member cartel.

One of OPEC's chief problems is that the Iraqis have refused to join the other 12 members in accepting any cartel quota on their production. Iraq wanted to be allowed to sell as much as Iran, historically a bigger producer. The Iranians and others could not agree to that.

The five-country pricing panel met in Madrid to review a situation in which typical OPEC crude are trading \$6 below the cartel's desired reference price of \$18 a barrel.

(Reuters, AP)

ECONOMY: Survey Finds Advisers Foresee a U.S. Recession by 1990

(Continued from first finance page)

fact that 90 percent of the nation's leading business economists expect an economic downturn during the next two years is noteworthy," said Jay N. Woodworth, an economist with Bankers Trust Co. and incoming president of the association, which is holding its 30th annual meeting in Pittsburgh this week.

The median projection for economic growth as measured by the gross national product was 3.9 percent this year, which would be the best since 1984.

The economists had predicted 2.9 percent growth in the May survey and raised their projections even though the summer drought is expected to knock a percentage point off this year's growth.

In November, after the stock market collapsed in October, more than half the economists were looking for a recession in 1988 and the median

growth projection was an anemic 2 percent.

The unexpectedly robust growth this year, if it holds up, should be good news for the Republican presidential candidate, Vice President George Bush, who is counting on Americans to vote their pocketbooks.

Fifty-three percent of a panel of nearly 300 association members predicted that Mr. Bush would defeat the Democratic Party candidate, Governor Michael S. Dukakis of Massachusetts, while 61 percent said they thought Mr. Bush's economic policies would be better for maintaining stable growth and low inflation. Thirty-seven percent said they thought Mr. Dukakis would win, even though only 22 percent said his policies were better.

But according to the economists, whoever wins will have an economic challenge.

The median projection for 1989 GNP growth was only 2.3 percent.

The economists also said inflation, as measured by the consumer price index, would pick up, from a projected 4.5 percent this year to 5.1 percent next year.

Mr. Woodworth said the 1989 growth projection meant "the panel must assume essentially zero growth, the shift from which receives are made, for the third and fourth quarters of 1989."

Asked to rank the next administration's economic policy priorities, the 300-member panel listed, in order of importance: reducing the budget deficit; completing the free-trade agreement with Canada; speeding up productivity growth; encouraging personal savings; and stimulating business investment.

In other predictions, the survey found:

- Interest rates, both short- and long-term, should rise one percentage point by mid-1989 and then start to decline.

- The merchandise trade deficit of \$170 billion in 1987 should shrink to \$135 billion this year and \$120 billion next year.

Near the bottom of the economists' list was curbing hostile corporate takeovers, discouraging corpo-

rate debt accumulation, increasing antitrust law enforcement, reforming securities laws to prevent smoother stock market collapse and changing federal law to allow banks to enter the securities industry.

Despite the importance placed on shrinking the budget deficit, the 60 economists did not see much progress. The median deficit projection for next year was \$150 billion, about the same as last year's budget gap and the deficit expected in fiscal year 1988.

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Bérégovoy Rules Out Devaluation Against Mark

By Reginald Dale
International Herald Tribune

BERLIN — Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy of France on Monday affirmed his rejection of a devaluation of the French franc against the Deutsche mark and said there were no monetary tensions between France and West Germany.

Mr. Bérégovoy, however, vigorously continued his campaign to persuade West German authorities to step up the pace of their country's economic growth.

Unlike most leading finance officials here, particularly the almost invisible Nicholas F. Brady, the new U.S. Treasury secretary, Mr. Bérégovoy is using the annual International Monetary Fund and World Bank joint meeting as a platform for expounding his government's economic and monetary policies to an international audience.

An essential element of Mr. Bérégovoy's message is the overriding importance of currency stability — both at home and abroad.

Internationally, he told the IMF's policy-making Interim Committee at the weekend, the stability of exchange rates must remain our principal objective."

In France, he told reporters on Saturday,

"the stability of the franc is the basis of the economic policy we intend to carry out."

Mr. Bérégovoy vehemently rejected the view of many private analysts, including some of those here for this week's meetings, that a realignment of currencies in the European Monetary System cannot be indefinitely delayed.

"The realignment, when it comes, will have to be quite large," said one private economist. "The mark may have to be revalued by as much as 10 percent against the franc."

Mr. Bérégovoy, however, stayed at a news briefing Monday. "We exclude any realignment." Similar statements have been made by senior West German officials in recent days.

Mr. Bérégovoy said he believed there are two requirements for the desired currency stability to be achieved: "Rigorous coordination" of interest rates and convergence of economic policies.

"It is not simply a question of stabilizing exchange rates," he said Monday. "We need economic convergence to arrive at stable exchange rates."

It was those two considerations that brought him to the subject of West Germany. After displaying irritation at what he regarded as a German failure to consult Paris on interest-rate

changes earlier this summer, Mr. Bérégovoy said that lessons have been learned.

"The problem remains of economic convergence," he said. "Strong growth is necessary in the European countries with external surpluses" to reduce balance of payments imbalances, he said, meaning West Germany.

Despite a recent increase in its economic growth rate, West Germany "must make an extra effort to increase internal demand," Mr. Bérégovoy said.

France, he said, had also raised the question of recycling West Germany's financial surpluses to other European countries.

But while the two countries are to study the French proposal, the initial German reaction has been dismissive. Indeed, some German officials said that they found the whole idea hard to understand.

The West German surpluses are already being recycled automatically, said an official, pointing out that capital outflows from Germany are currently much higher than the country's current-account surplus.

Rather than try to steer West German investment to France and other European Community countries, the French should make the investment climate in their own country more attractive, the official said.

Agencies Say Trade Barriers Must Decline

Reuter

BERLIN — A committee of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank on Monday urged wealthy countries to reduce trade barriers to help foster economic vitality in the Third World.

The Development Committee met as part of the annual gathering of the agencies.

It said studies indicated that "I would be hard-pressed to say that this accurately or adequately reflects Japan's current standing in the world economy."

He said that Japan's share should "be brought into line with its economic standing" as the second-largest country in economic terms, in the IMF.

IMF: Japan Proposes Aid Initiative for Third World

(Continued from page 1)

seed with forgiving one-third of the debts owed by the poorest 18 nations of the world, mostly located in sub-Saharan Africa, would cost Japan \$3.5 billion in principal and interest.

The debt initiative to be unveiled Tuesday was raised briefly at the Toronto summit of heads of state last June, but got a short hearing.

The still-secret details apparently do take into account the insistence that there be no bail-out of commercial banks from their exposure to debtor countries.

The Interim Committee's statement Monday reiterated this stand.

While it welcomed a further broadening of the "menu approach," giving banks options not to meet their foreign obligations. Such bank reluctance only serves to undermine the debt strategy.

The Interim Committee also in-

dicated that it would put off a decision on increasing the size of the IMF — the level of members' quotas — until next spring.

The question of an increase has become a delicate political issue.

The United States does not wish to see its quota share reduced, while Britain is not keen on a general revision that would drop it in the IMF ranking.

The present Japanese quota is 4.7 percent, giving it the fifth-largest place in the organization.

Mr. Sumita said that "I would be hard-pressed to say that this accurately or adequately reflects Japan's current standing in the world economy."

He said that Japan's share should "be brought into line with its economic standing" as the second-largest country in economic terms, in the IMF.

Monday's AMEX Closing

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere.

(Continued)

12 Month High Low Stock Div. Yld. PE Net 52s High Low 4 P.M. Close

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12 Month High Low Stock Div. Yld. PE Net 52s High Low 4 P.M. Close

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ing Back

SPORTS / 1988 SUMMER OLYMPICS

Defense Rules for U.S. Basketball Team

By Dave Anderson

New York Times Service

SEoul — After the United States opened the Olympic basketball tournament with a 97-53 rout of Spain, John Thompson was just about finished answering questions. But suddenly the American coach from Georgetown University was asked to comment on some people's theory that Dan Majerle, the only white player on the U.S. team, had been a token selection.

"When I hear ignorance," Thompson said firmly, "I don't respond to it."

Thompson didn't respond, but he didn't forget. If he always has a white towel stung over one shoulder, his cravat is always stung over the other. And that question stuck in. After the United States had stunned Brazil, 102-87, he was talking about how Majerle had covered Oscar Schmidt.

"We had to have somebody who would stay on him," the coach said. "We had to have someone who's not only a strong person, but a stubborn person. Danny fits all that. Helium player for a token, isn't he?"

In assembling the American team that will oppose the Soviet

Union in a semifinal, Thompson sought strong, stubborn players that reflect his strong, stubborn desire for a strong, stubborn defense. Such as Majerle, a sturdy 6-foot-5-inch (1.9-meter) tree trunk cut of Central Michigan who was the first draft choice of the Phoenix Suns of the National Basketball Association.

De-fense has been Thompson's philosophy at Georgetown. And it's his philosophy here in going for the gold medal that the United States is always expected to win.

But the last time the United States opposed the Russians in basketball, in 1972 at Munich, the Americans finished second. In the tumult and the shouting over three seconds twice being restored to the clock, the Russians won the gold medal, 51-50, at the buzzer.

"It was just a little kid, but I remember seeing that game," recalled David Robinson, the 7-foot center. "I didn't understand the importance of it. I just felt we got cheated. Hopefully, we won't let ourselves get in that position here."

Thompson's emphasis on defense won't let them. Among the lookouts at Monday's 94-57 victory over Puerto Rico was Luke

Olson, the University of Arizona coach whose best player, Sean Elliott, was cut during tryouts for the U.S. team.

"John's done a tremendous job in putting together a team that he's comfortable with," Olson said. "I didn't see anyone out there who didn't get in their man's face. This is the best defensive team I've ever seen in the Olympics."

As the only unbeaten team in these Olympics, the Americans have had only one close game, a 76-70 victory over Canada. And more than most, Jack Donohue, the Canadian coach, appreciates what Thompson has done. Donohue once was the Power Memorial coach when Karen Abdul-Jabbar was known as Lew Alcindor in high school. He later was the Holy Cross coach before taking over Canada's basketball program.

The problem John has is the problem all U.S. coaches have: "Donohue said, "He has an all-star team playing together for only a short time with little international experience. In that situation, a coach can go one of two ways. You can get the best players you can and decide how you're going to play, but you might not have enough time to do

that. Or you get the players to fit your philosophy, like John did. John did it the right way."

Among those who learned to fit Thompson's philosophy is Robinson, the navy ensign who has signed a \$2 million 10-year contract with the San Antonio Spurs of the NBA for 1989 delivery.

"Coach Thompson is constantly

demanding that you improve,"

Robinson said. "I don't think that's bad. If it's left up to you, you may be easy on yourself. But he's never easy on you. He knows I'm capable of doing a lot and making an impact on the game. He's got me to be much more alert. To move my arms, move my feet."

But when Thompson looks at videotapes of the Olympic games, he looks primarily at what happened on defense.

"Our kids have always put forth the intensity and the effort," the coach said. "But when I look at the tapes, I can always find a lot of criticism."

Hearing that Robinson chuckled. Like everyone else who's around John Thompson, he knows that the coach's defensive philosophy is as strong and stubborn as the coach himself. As the Russians will discover.

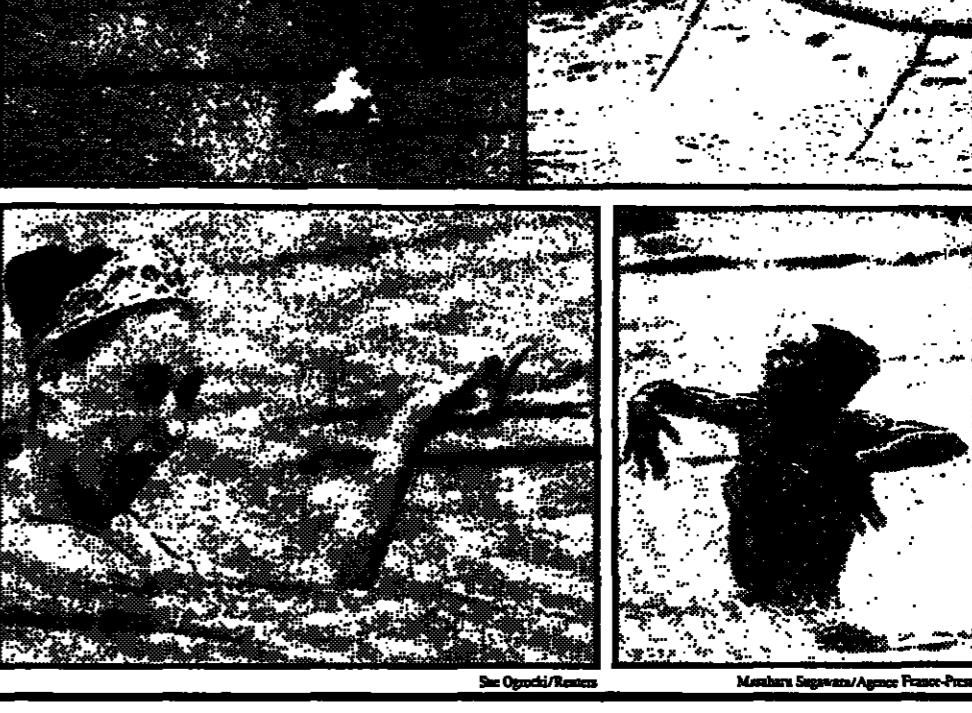
Rene Gobin/Agence France-Presse

Paul Ereng took a flag-waving victory lap and the French team in the Torpedo competition, Nicolas Hennard, left, and Jean-Yves Le Deroff, flashed across the finish line. Bottom, left to right, Greg Longmuir showed well in a platform dive, and Zhang Ying gestured while Muriel Hermine jumped during synchronized swimming.



Bruno Tassan/The Associated Press

Sven Goran/EPA



Maurice Sagnier/Agence France-Presse

OLYMPIC NOTEBOOK

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

"Ah-hah," said the security man at Dulles Airport outside Washington, D.C., as I opened my suitcase for inspection before taking off for Korea. He scrutinized the contents:

Two jars of peanut butter, jelly, crackers, plastic knives, assorted cookies, raisins, peanut butter cheese crackers and some Hershey's Kisses.

A plain food-and-degenerate-snacker, I hoped to survive the Olympics living out of my suitcase. But the plan went awry. "What I've got to have," I said to a friend, "is a grilled cheese sandwich."

To my surprise, he said, "I know just the place." We went to a counter in the main press center. In a corner was a little lunch counter that I had missed.

There, I was introduced to Sur K.H., who turned the Games around for me. Sur makes as good a grilled cheese as I've ever tasted.

Sometimes it comes up Swiss. Sometimes American. Sometimes a little of each. You never know. It's

a triple-decker, too. The fries are great. Marble cake, spectacular. I couldn't ask for more.

William Glidea — *The Washington Post*

Davide Tizzano, an Italian rower, will go home with a gold medal after Tizzano, a member of the quadruple scull crew, lost the medal on Sunday when he took a victory dip near the dock.

Monday afternoon, a Korean scuba diver, Kang Se Nam, found it under six inches (15 centimeters) of mud in water about 12 feet deep.

"I saw the Italian rower get the gold medal and I saw him again looking very disappointed" when he lost it, said Kang. "I was very excited and very happy to find it," So was Tizzano.

"We just wrote our names in the record book of blunders," said Charlie Jones. He, along with Frank Shorter, his NBC co-commentator, had misidentified the winner of the men's 300-meter final Monday as Nixon Kiprotich of Kenya.

It actually was his countryman, Paul Ereng. Both runners were wearing red shorts and white jerseys, but Ereng passed Kiprotich in the final turn.

Jones and Shorter didn't catch their mistake until the end of the first replay. In reporting the goof, it took The Associated Press almost as long to correct its misspelling of Kiprotich's name.

Lori Strong, a 16-year-old Canadian gymnast, completed her floor routine without realizing she had broken her right leg. Afterward, she went to the medical center and doctors gave her the bad news. Strong, now being pushed around the athletes' village in a wheelchair, says she'll need six weeks to recover.

Also on the injury list was Siegfried Wentz of West Germany, silver medalist in the decathlon at last year's world championships. She has withdrawn from the Olympics with a sore ankle and returned home.

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OLYMPIC RESULTS

MEDALS



BRONZE-HORNES, Los Angeles, 1984; 2. Peter Müller, East Germany, 1980; 3. Oleg Novikov, Union, 1956; 4. Valerio Bracco, U.S., 1964; 5. Dame Diana, U.S., 1972; 6. Dennis Howard, U.S., 1976; 7. Michael Johnson, U.S., 1980; 8. Peter Dobell, West Germany, 1972; 9. Steve Cram, Britain, 1984; 10. Steve Cram, Britain, 1988.

WOMEN'S 800 METERS

1. Steffi Wacker, East Germany, 1984; 2. Charlotte Wochel, East Germany, 1988; 3. Barbara Höglund, Sweden, 1980; 4. Birthe Hansen, Denmark, 1984; 5. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 6. Linda Lai, Canada, 1984; 7. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 8. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 9. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 10. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988.

WOMEN'S 1500 METERS

1. Marita Koch, Poland, 1984; 2. Irmgard Keitner, East Germany, 1988; 3. Barbara Höglund, Sweden, 1980; 4. Birthe Hansen, Denmark, 1984; 5. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 6. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 7. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 8. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 9. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 10. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988.

WOMEN'S 3000 METERS

1. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 2. Barbara Höglund, Poland, 1984; 3. Birthe Hansen, Denmark, 1984; 4. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 5. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 6. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 7. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 8. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 9. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 10. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988.

WOMEN'S 400 METERS

1. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 2. Barbara Höglund, Poland, 1984; 3. Birthe Hansen, Denmark, 1984; 4. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 5. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 6. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 7. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 8. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 9. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988; 10. Kristina Kostyuk, Ukraine, 1988.

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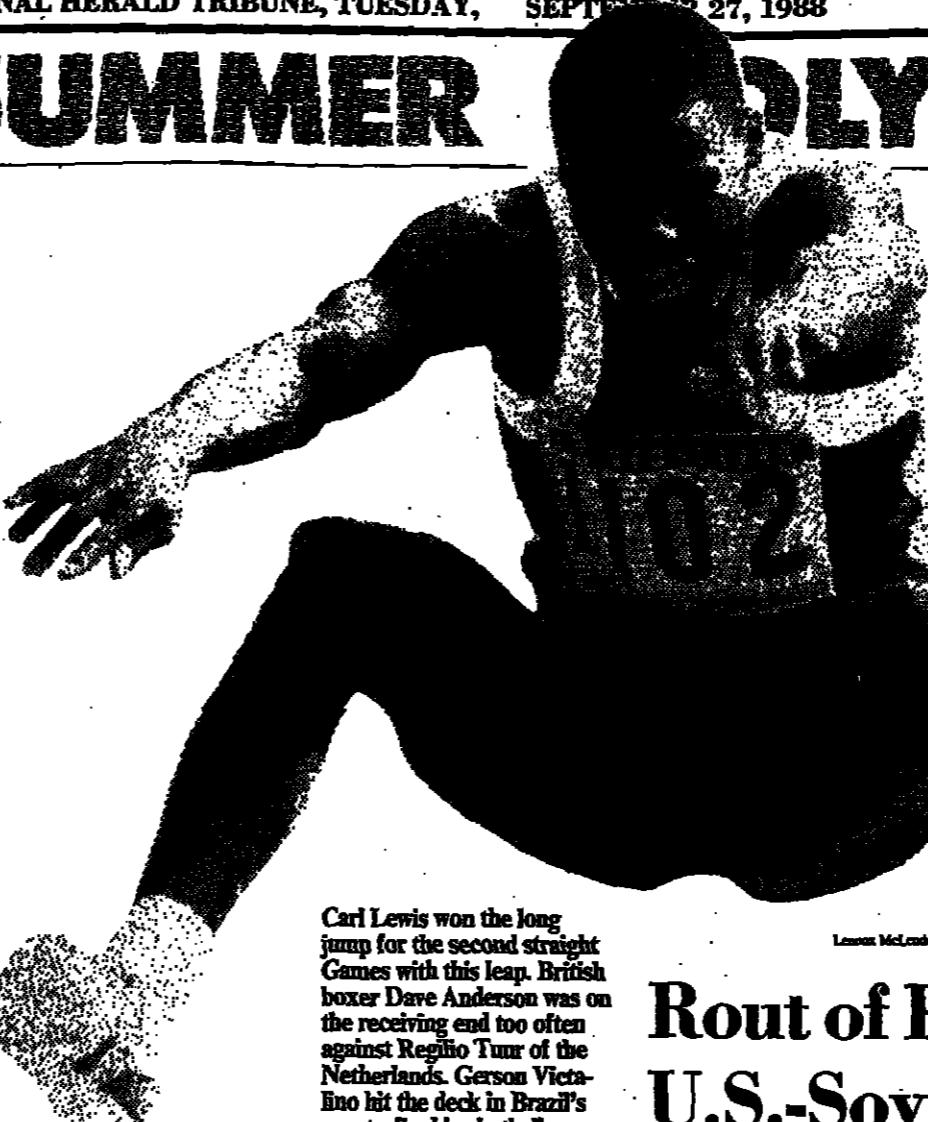
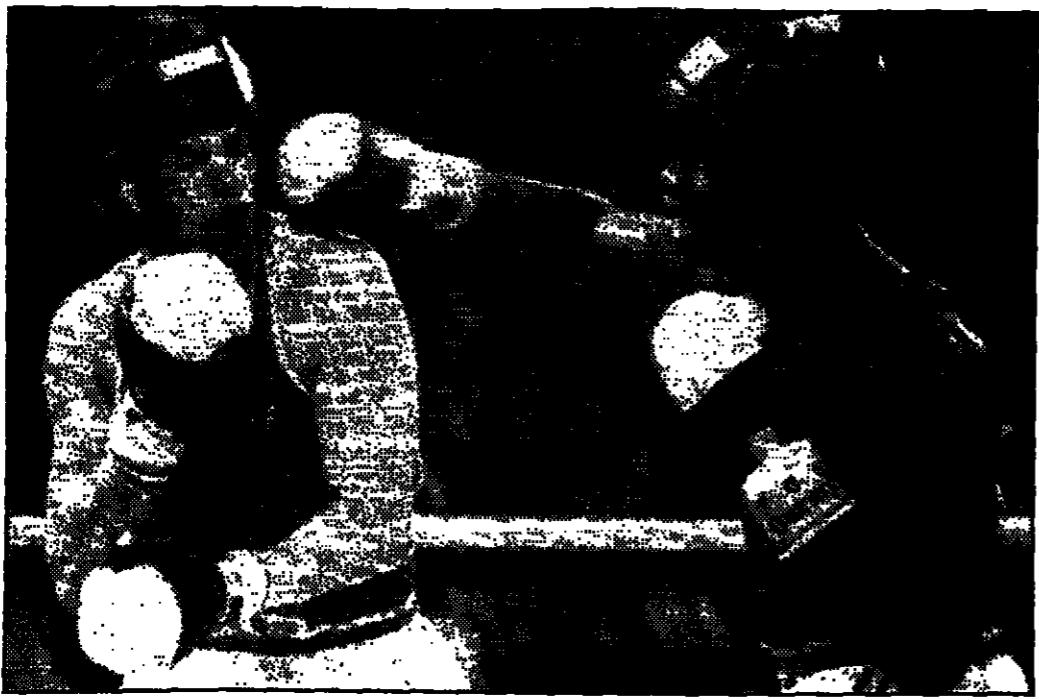
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SPORTS / 1988 SUMMER OLYMPICS



U.S., Paced by Kingdom and Lewis, Wins 6 Medals

By Michael Janofsky
New York Times Service

SEOUL — The United States won six medals Monday in track and field, with Carl Lewis leading a sweep in the men's long jump and Roger Kingdom winning the men's 110-meter hurdles.

It wasn't bad day, either, for East Germany, the Soviet Union and for Paul Freng, a Kenyan who won the men's 800-meter final. A newcomer to the distance, Freng beat two former Olympic champions, Joaquin Cruz of Brazil and Said Aouia of Morocco, for the gold medal.

Both Lewis and Kingdom defended Olympic titles they won in Los Angeles four years ago. Lewis, thus, became the first long jumper in the Olympics to repeat after four years. Kingdom was the first in his event in 28 years.

In "the most difficult day of track and field I've ever had," Lewis ran the first two rounds of the 200-meter final with just 70 minutes in between—he was in the last of 10 heats in the first round and the first of five in the second—before starting the long jump competition 55 minutes later.

Was he bothered? Check the results. He breezed through the 200 qualifiers, easily advancing to the semifinals Wednesday.

In the long jump, he soared into the sand pit five times before fouling on his last attempt, and recorded the four longest jumps of the day—28 feet, 7½ inches (8.76 meters), which won him the gold; 28-1 and two at 27-1½.

It was Lewis's second medal of the games, following his second-place finish to Ben Johnson of Canada in the 100-meter final.

Mike Powell got the silver for an effort of 27-10¾ and Larry Myricks the bronze for 27-1¾.

The only other long jumper to win consecutive Olympic titles was Myer Prinstein of the United States, who won golds in 1904 in St. Louis and two years later in Athens—the only Games held inside the four-year cycle of the modern Olympics.

For World's Best, It Was Strike Time

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL — Some of the world's best pole vaulters went on strike Monday during the qualification trials, then packed their duffel bags and walked off the field having cleared 17 feet, 8 inches (5.38 meters) but not the automatic qualification mark of 18-2.

They included the three Americans—Kory Tarpenning, Earl Bell and Billy Olson—and Sergei Bubka of the Soviet Union, the world record holder.

"We had a little power struggle, between the officials and the pole vaulters," said Bell. "As is usually the case, when these things happen, the athletes prevailed. They wanted us to go 18-2, but through the progress of the day, we realized that 17-8 was going to be enough."

The first group asked officials to

narrow the field. We formed a little union and refused to vault."

The dispute arose because the 21 vaulters entered in the trials, split into two groups, were jumping simultaneously on two pits side by side. But the one group, which included most of the best competitors, was moving faster than the other, and jumping at 18-0, while the second group was still at the opening height of 17-8. And this group was taking its time, apparently hoping the favorites would miss and give them a greater opportunity to be among the 12 finalists.

"If the other pit has the advantage of sitting and watching what we're doing and key off it, we're at a disadvantage," Olson said. "It worked out good in the long run, but it was a little scary at the time."

(NYT, AP)

halt their competition until the others were at the same height. The officials refused. So the first group decided not to jump anymore.

Officials, Bell said, "got madder and madder, angrier and angrier."

The result was that all 15 vaulters still left in the qualifications will be allowed to compete in Wednesday's final. Although a field event final with more than 12 competitors is not unusual, the solution did not please Olympic officials.

Olson said he heard one say, "We are going to change the rule so you guys can't pull these shenanigans."

He probably heard correctly.

Primo Nebiolo, the president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation, said of the walkout: "The rules permit them to do this. We must change the rules."

(NYT, AP)

After the first group refused to

For U.S. Weight Lifter, a Sad Burden to Shoulder

By Tony Kornheiser
Washington Post Service

SEOUL — When Rich Schutz, a U.S. weight lifter, begins his competition, he will try to bring familiar, soothing thoughts up to the platform with him: thoughts of how he wants his body to complete the work at hand, the cleaning and the jerking of the weight, thoughts of past successful competitions.

Unlike athletes who use competition as a way to exorcise their aggression, Schutz has always trained with tranquility in mind. Whether in competition, or at home in the workout room his father, Fred, built behind the garage, lifting weights has been Schutz's passport "to escape the real world, to get away."

But everyone will understand if the real world intrudes on him Tuesday, if there's a sorrowful thought Rich Schutz brings up to the platform with him, because just last Sunday, on the second day of competition, his mother died.

Kathleen Schutz was diagnosed as having leukemia seven years ago. But this July, on a family vacation, her condition turned worse.

"She'd planned on coming to Korea with me to see Richard lift until she got laid up in July," Fred Schutz recalled. "Just before I left for Seoul, she'd gotten real sick and I said, 'Honey, I don't think I should go.' But she insisted I go, and she made me promise I wouldn't tell Richard how serious it was;

he'd already gone, and she didn't want him to feel that pressure."

"I said, 'I'll go if you make sure you'll be here when I get back.' She said, 'Oh sure.' But it didn't work out that way."

When he got to Seoul, Fred Schutz couldn't keep the promise to not tell Rich

this opportunity," his father said. "That was her last wish, that Richard compete."

And Rich added, "It was very important to her. She liked to tell people I was going to the Olympics. In the last couple of months, when she couldn't get around much, that was the one thing she really treasured."

But Rich Schutz will not lift just for his

mother. The family's weight lifting roots are on his father's side. Fred Schutz, who manages a health club, was a national champion in 1958.

About 10 years ago, when he was already 44, Fred was in a tavern watching TV and saw Lou Ferrigno lift 315 pounds (145.75 kilograms). Fred's buddies were impressed, but Fred wasn't.

"I can jerk as much as The Incredible Hulk," he declared. He went to the gym, slapped 320 pounds on the bar, and snatched it over his head to show what weight lifting, not that body-building razzmatazz, was all about.

"She'd have felt terrible if Richard missed

her again."

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BOOKS

ERNARD SHAW
Volume I, 1856-1898 The Search for Love
by Michael Holroyd. 486 pages. \$24.95. Random House, 201 East 50th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017.

Reviewed by Noel Annan

A century ago the Irish conquered England. Their shock troops were led by Shaw, Wilde, Yeats and Synge and O'Casey in the rear — and they won. Richard W. Pethick's biography — "Irish Literature and morale upside down" — is a masterpiece. English literature and morals upside down. For Leibniz's sake, they undermined common sense by paradox, levity, wit and wit. In a play about a man's expulsion from North Leinster, Shaw told G.K. Chesterton that his new countryman from Yorkshire, "Shaw told G.K. Chesterton was not fooled. 'Scarcely anyone but a political lunatic would have made this remark.'

Shaw's courage and clowning were born in misery. His father was a hush, his mother lived with a singing teacher and a tryst, eventually decamping with him to London. Deserved, Shaw won self-respect through work and total belief in the power of reason — as he did in his own life.

He taught himself the piano unaided; he earned about money as a clerk in Dublin and about nothing as a student. He taught himself shorthand in London to the last, and they too were rejected. So he abandoned his dream of taking literary London by storm and turned to journalism. There indeed he triumphed.

He was constantly in pursuit of another quarry. Few men have tormented women more than Shaw. Characteristically he tortured them by refusing to go to bed with them. He never did so until he was nearly 30 and he had only two sexual affairs. But he could hardly see a woman without pelting her with words.

Anyone who writes about Shaw finds himself in the ring and liable to be flattened by Shaw's combination-punching. Try an epigram and Shaw replies with an uproarious upturn, shift to analysis and, on any situation, he is more provocative and startling. But Michael Holroyd, weaving and bobbing, holds his own in the clinches and is as fresh as paint when the bell rings for yet another round. He has written a remarkable book, as authoritative as it is enchanting.

Shaw had come to London in the heyday of the public lecture and at a time when societies, ethical, religious, political and neoclassical, were multiplying as fast as fads. He began to speak to some of them, heard Henry George, re-learned economics from Stanley Jevons and to the despair — or perhaps relief — of William Morris and other revolutionary socialists, joined the newest of their societies, the Fabians.

The story Michael Holroyd tells of Shaw's early writing is a story of misery and failure. His verses were rejected; he wrote novel after novel tuning the Victoria three-decker inside out by marrying the heroine to the hero in the first chapter and letting her lose him in the last, and they too were rejected. So he abandoned his dream of taking literary London by storm and turned to journalism. There indeed he triumphed.

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Noel Annan, the author of "Leslie Stephen: The Goddess Victorian," wrote this for The Washington Post.

CHESS

By Robert Byrne

13 Bb4 g5! 14 fg fg 15 Bg5 Bd4 yields Black attacking chances.

After 12 Nc6, Kortchnoi was emboldened to recapture with 12...bc! because 13 Rcl 15 Ag4 Qb4 15 b3 Bg6! 16 Rcf Bb5 17 Ob8 ab 18 Rd6! Rb8! 19 Ng5 Nc5 20 dc3 is very strong for Black. Instead, Nikolic aimed for a mating attack with 13 b4.

Kortchnoi, at his cold-blooded best, let Nikolic come on as he liked — as long as there was no chance for 15 Bb6? in view of 15...Bb6 16 Qh6 Qb2 17 hg (Qc3 18 Kd1 Qa1 19 Kc2 Qa2 20 Kc1 Qc4 21 Kd2 Qc2 22 Kc1 Qc4 23 Kd2 Qd3 24 Kc1 Qg6).

While Nikolic looked on in vain for a way into the black king position, Kortchnoi made solid progress by counterattacking with 18...cd and 19...cd! He brushed off 20 Bb6 by 20...Bb6.

The decisive blow was 24...Rc4!, forbidding White to guard his d pawn because 25...Rcd7 would lose material to 25...Rcd7. Nikolic had to give up one pawn right away with 25...Qa3 and prayed for a miracle by giving up a knight with 26 Rch1 Qc3.

Of course, he got his piece back after 27 Qc3 Rc3 28 Bd2 Bd4 29 Rd4, but now he was in an endgame two pawns down.

Kortchnoi's excellent technique harvested the point without trouble. After 37...d4, it was the white king that was in for a pommeling, so Nikolic gave up.

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Elementary, isn't it?

But the problem is how to overcome the stodgy, solid, yet weakness-free 8...cd that Gary Kasparov used successfully in his title match with Anatoly Karpov.

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Or 9...

ART BUCHWALD

A Salute to Right Arms

WASHINGTON — I recently visited an arms factory where George Bush was expected later in the day.

"Does this plant make fire-arms?" I asked Baskerville, one of Bush's advance men.

"No," he said.

"It produces arms that you can place across your chest when you're reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. It's the largest right-arm factory in the world, and business is booming since the candidate made the flag the main issue of his campaign."

"Are they meant for people who don't have right arms?" I asked.

"No, these are for citizens who have their own arms. The manufactured arm makes it possible to recite the Pledge and applaud Bush at the same time."

"It's a miracle," I exclaimed.

"Before Reagan, Americans didn't care if they had an arm to pledge with or not. But the Republicans changed all that, and the demand for a right arm to put over your heart has swept the nation. They're not very expensive. They sell for \$9.95 each."

"Does Bush own any of these?"

"Of course. If you say the Pledge of Allegiance as often as he does, you have to keep a trunkload for emergencies. They're going to give



him a Teflon-coated one at today's ceremonies. It's supposed to be very special because not only can you place it across your chest to salute the flag, but it can also be held up in a V for Victory sign when you're taking a bow."

"What does George do with his real right arm?"

"During his speech he uses it to point out Dukakis' mistakes and to question the governor's patriotism. Any time you see Bush sticking his finger into the air, you can assume that the rest of the arm belongs to him."

"And when he has his arm across his chest?"

"Almost certainly it's a plastic one made in this factory."

"How did you discover such an operation?"

"The owner called us. He sent a sample to the Vice President as soon as he heard that George had a bad case of tennis elbow caused by reciting the Pledge. The VP was really impressed and told me to check it out. What made it exciting to us was that Michael Dukakis had never been here. It seemed the perfect spot for a follow-up to George's visit to the flag factory in New Jersey."

"That was good thinking," I told him. "You'll probably be on all three networks tonight."

"We hope so, but that isn't why George is coming over."

"Why is he coming?"

"It's his way of showing that he cares about this country, and that he admires any company that makes it easier for Americans to recite the Pledge. Many people complain about how hard it is to put their arms across their chests. With these arms they have no excuse."

I said, "Since I'm here, I think I'll get one. How long are they good for?"

"Twenty days if you keep them in a dry place."

"Can I use the arm to wave to George after he makes a speech?"

"Yes, we waved them at the convention in New Orleans when Dan Quayle was nominated and they worked like a dream."

"What time does today's ceremony begin?"

"Any minute now. We can start as soon as they've measured the VP for a flag to wrap himself in when he leads us all in reciting the oath."

Soviet-American Book Exchange

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The first traveling Soviet book exhibition, entitled "The U.S.R.: Perestroika and Glasnost," had its inaugural opening last week at the Martin Luther King Memorial Library. The next stops are in Los Angeles and Boston.

The 1,000-book display is the Soviet half of the first official Soviet-American book exchange and is sponsored by the U.S. Information Agency; Goskomzidat, the Soviet State Committee for Publishing, Printing and Book Trade; and the District of Columbia Public Library. The U.S. exhibit will appear in Novosibirsk, Minsk and Tbilisi.

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By Charles Trueheart
Washington Post Service

ANTIBES, France — Even now, Graham Greene will go to bed blocked. He will leave his things arranged in piles on the table by the living-room window, four flights up from the clutter of the street. He may have a last drink, but it won't help. The character who takes control of the story, and in whose judgment Greene puts his trust, simply will cease to cooperate.

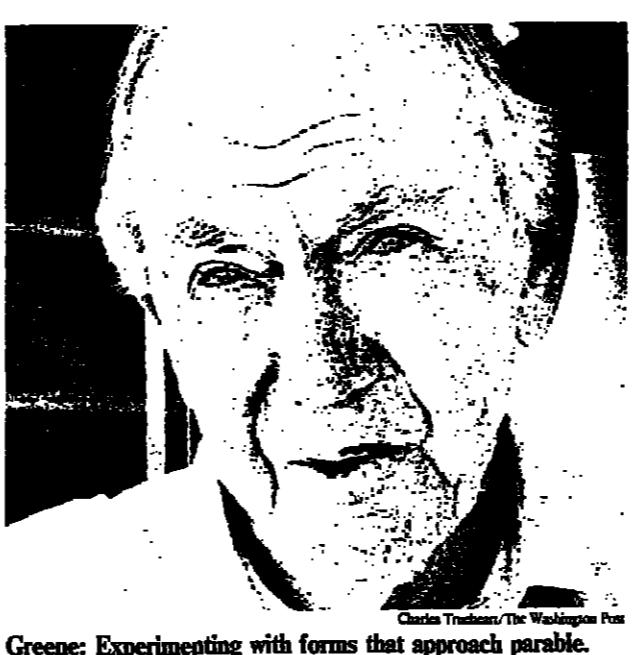
"It's not very pleasant," he says, stretching his long legs out from the chair, "except that now I have absolute confidence that during sleep a solution will come, and it practically always does. The next morning when I start work — which I do immediately after breakfast, I don't have a bath or anything — I don't see what the problem was. The unconscious has solved it."

Greene puts stock in such unknowns. They tantalize him, and throw others off the scent. He is a man who wants to know, but not a man who wants to be known.

Accordingly, there is in Greene's manner, which is never less than cordial, a steady resistance to the pressures of curiosity. Questions about literary motives, or religious reflections, or personal affairs are answered with polite discomfort.

Ever since the novels that remain the core of his most important work — "The Power and the Glory" (1940), "The Heart of the Matter" (1948) and "The End of the Affair" (1951) — the Greene character has been on a continuing quest for meaning amid squalls of faithlessness and deception and temptation. These themes preoccupy Greene still, though of late — since "The Human Factor," in 1978 — his novels have been slighter, more experimental in form, more didactic in tone.

That description fits "The Captain and the Enemy," his 25th novel, which appeared in Britain this month (Max Reinhardt/Viking) and appears in the United States next month (Viking). The book, at 189 pages, is purest fable: A boy is "won" from his widowed father in a game of backgammon. The winner, a mysterious fellow known as The Cap-



Charles Trumbo/The Washington Post

tain, leaves the boy to be raised by a woman who lives in a subterranean hotel in London, supporting them with generous checks drawn on vaguely ill-gotten gains. Until his disconcerting conclusion in Panama City, "The Captain and the Enemy" is almost innocent and surely magical in its atmosphere, something that might have come to Greene in a dream.

For many years Greene kept a diary of his dreams. "I used to do it in periods when I'd got no book to do. It would fill up the time . . ." he says dismissively. Greene, who will turn 84 next month, has lived in his unprepossessing flat here for more than 20 years, and has been visiting Antilles, so Greene himself, in his beige leisure wear, doesn't seem inclined to the wracked anguish of his characters. He is gentle and cautious — but with "the shyness of genially subversive men" as V.S. Pritchett once described him.

Greene is in the shrinking company of writers who say: "Don't ask me questions, go read my books." In "A Sort of Life" (1971), he suggested a reason for his resistance to interrogation: "A writer's knowledge of himself, realistic and unromantic, is like a store of energy on which he must draw for a lifetime; one volt of it properly directed will bring a character alive." By implication, volts cast randomly at interviewers only deplete the store.

There are more particular reasons for his reticence. In conversation about his daily life, Greene cannot help leaving the impression that he is seldom alone. In the dedication to "The Captain and the Enemy," he writes, "For Y, with all the memories we share of nearly 30 years." A snapshot rests on the edge of a bookshelf in the living room: a striking white-haired woman perhaps 20 years Greene's junior. The selfsame Y? Yes, he replies, "but no name, please." For Y, all these years, has been married to someone else.

Greene's discretion is more

chivalrous than secretive; the relationship is an ill-kept secret. They travel together — yearly to Greene's house on Capri, and elsewhere — and when Y is visiting in Antibes, one learns, they play bilingual Scrabble. "She nearly always wins because her English is better than my French," he says.

Six years ago, Greene himself put this determinedly private attachment in jeopardy of exposure by intervening in the divorce of his estranged husband's child-custody demands. Greene issued a 69-page pamphlet, "J'accuse," charging authorities in Nice with corruption and cover-up and calling, successfully, for a French government investigation.

Despite Greene's best efforts to keep his life from public view, he has cooperated in arrangements for the sale and disposition of his papers. Most of those from the 1940s to '60s are housed at the University of Texas at Austin. The collection includes the original typescripts of most of the major novels and, certainly through no help from Greene, a package of 800 letters written to his first and only wife Vivian, the mother of his grown son and daughter.

Even now, Greene has not shied from the dangerous and "Getting to Know the General," his last nonfiction book, a personal reflection on its latest locus, Central America. It recounts Greene's unlikely relationship with Omar Torrijos, who began with a letter from the Panamanian military leader in 1976 and ended with the rather suspicious airplane crash that killed Torrijos in 1981.

Through Torrijos, Greene met the Sandinista leaders well before they took power in Nicaragua. "I found myself therefore directly opposed to the White House-Pentagon attitude to Central America, who were supporting the death squads in Salvador, who had disposed of Allende in Chile. I found myself in full sympathy with the Sandinistas and against Somoza who had been supported by the United States."

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